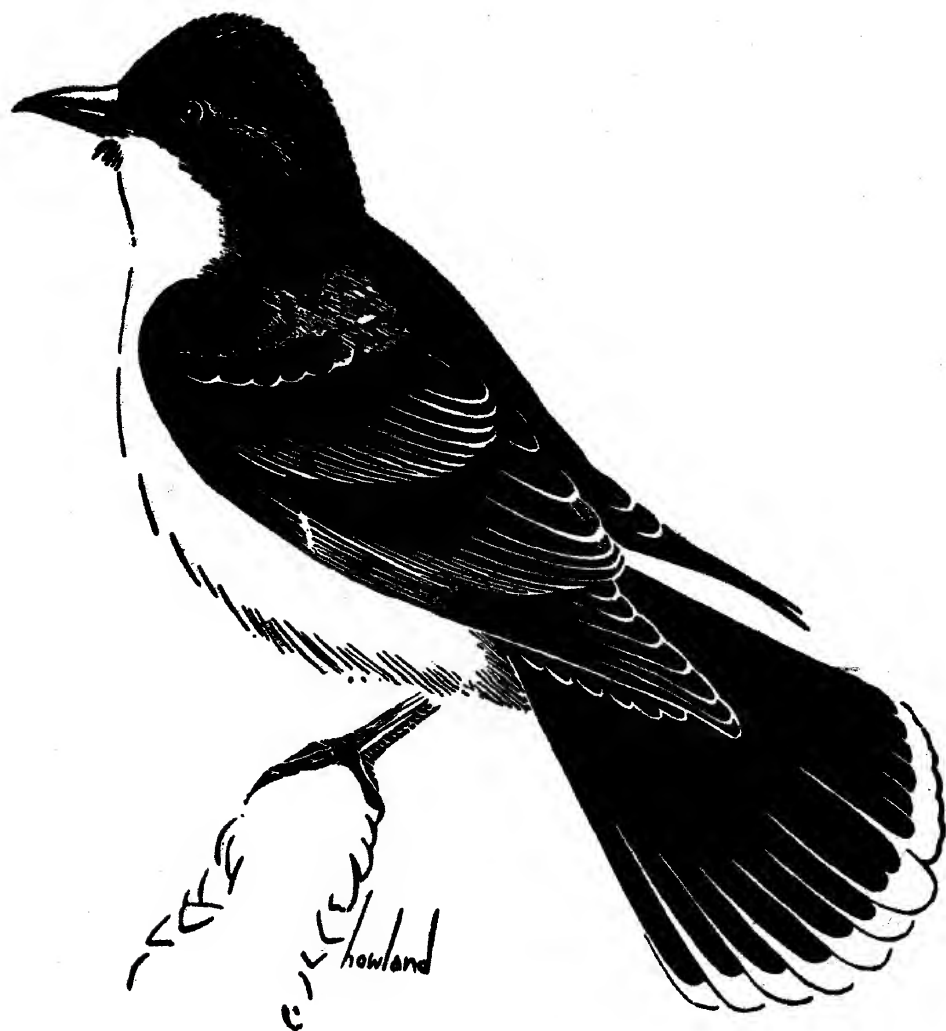


The **KINGBIRD**



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The Kingbird is a publication of The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc., which has been organized to further the study of bird life and to disseminate knowledge thereof, to educate the public in the need of conserving natural resources, and to encourage the establishment and maintenance of sanctuaries and protected areas. Individual member's dues are \$2.50 annually, and all individual members receive the Kingbird. A member wishing to make an additional contribution may become a Sustaining Member (\$5), a Supporting Member (\$10), or a Life Member (\$100—"payable over a four-year period in equal installments until the full amount is paid", if member so desires.) For all classes of membership contact the treasurer, Mrs. Dayton Stoner, 399 State Street, Albany 10, New York.



The KINGBIRD

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RECENT CHANGES IN WATERFOWL POPULATIONS IN NEW YORK

DONALD D. FOLEY
Conservation Biologist

State of New York Conservation Department

When it comes to the reliable recording of changes in waterfowl populations, there is much to be desired. Even we who are charged with the protection and management of our waterfowl species wish that there were better means of censusing them. The Conservation Department now has a wealth of information on breeding, migratory and wintering abundance, obtained by both ground and aerial survey, but we are constantly striving to make the "counts" better.

The first meaningful figures on waterfowl abundance were made on an experimental basis in the Ontario-St. Lawrence District in 1945 and 1946, based on aerial techniques developed by the Fish and Wildlife Service in the Canadian Prairies. In 1947 these flights were broadened to cover most of the state, and in 1948 the regular standardized state route was established (Figure 1). This route was flown periodically throughout the falls of 1948

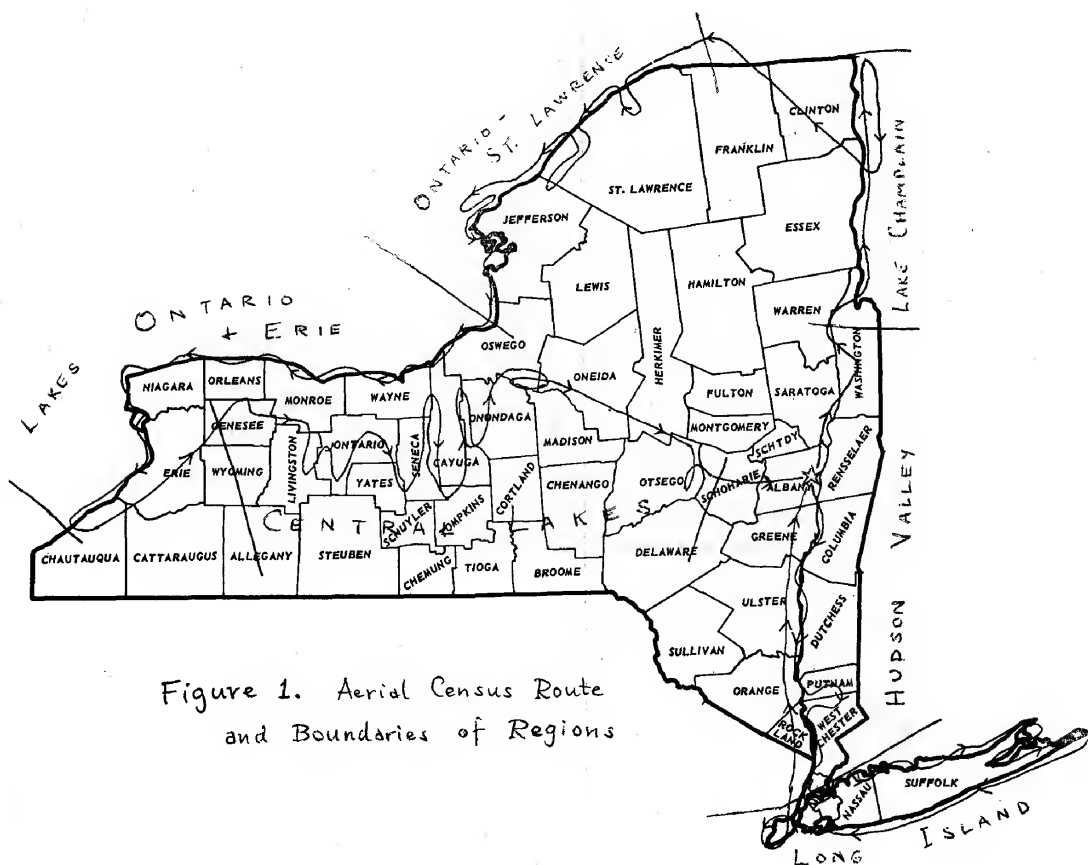


Figure 1. Aerial Census Route
and Boundaries of Regions

through 1953, and each January (as a mid-winter "inventory") up to the present. For most of this time the data have been taken by the same pilot and observer, although they are now on their third airplane.

In the early days of the flights, the aerial census flights were an eye-opener in many ways:

First, we had to learn how the various species of waterfowl looked from an eagle's-eye view, and while they appeared almost completely different we found it actually easier than ground observations after a little practice. A big help was the way the birds came southward on migration: slowly and in comparatively small numbers in early fall, which gave us time for study so that we were ready when we ran into the really big concentrations later on. The flights also impressed on us how the various species of waterfowl came through at different times and often chose different water areas for resting and feeding.

TRANSIENT POPULATIONS

If we break the figures down into the six regions of the State from a waterfowl standpoint, and considering all the data collected by aerial observation over the 1948 - 1953 period, the regions look about like this (Table 1):

Table 1. Percent Occurrence by Region of Total Observations of Waterfowl by Aerial Census from 1948 through 1953.

Year	Lake Champlain	Ontario - St. Lawrence	Lake Ontario	Central Lakes	Hudson Valley	Long Island
1948-49	11.4	14.3	5.3	19.2	4.2	45.6
1949-50	6.9	12.5	6.1	14.2	4.0	56.3
1950-51	8.3	16.6	10.6	14.8	5.2	44.5
1951-52	6.4	14.9	7.4	12.2	3.7	55.4
1952-53	7.3	16.9	7.2	11.8	5.0	51.8
Average	7.8	14.9	7.4	14.2	4.4	51.3

The averages for the various regions fluctuated only slightly from year to year and are probably representative.

The composition of the species varied markedly from region to region but in every instance black ducks were the most numerous dabblers while scaup were the most abundant divers.

Taking one region as an example, we can show (Figure 2) how we have plotted the abundance throughout the fall of the various species. This example shows clearly the average buildup and decline of black ducks in the Hudson Valley from September through January. With the peak reached on or about November 1, we have reasoned that a hunting season opening just previous to this would be most equitable to the hunter and most favorable to the birds themselves. This normal opening around October 15 each year prevents undue hunting pressure on local breeding populations by waiting for migrants from the north, and at the same time it allows the hunters reasonable sport and length of season, depending upon what framework the Fish and Wildlife Service allows.

Species-wise, the State figures have indicated that waterfowl proceed southward through New York in about these percentages of the total observed (Table 2):

Table 2. Per cent Occurrence by Species of Waterfowl Observed by Air, 1948-1953.

Species	Per Cent
Black Duck -----	25.5
Mallard -----	4.8
Wood Duck -----	0.9
Blue-winged Teal -----	0.8
Green-winged Teal -----	0.9
Baldpate -----	2.9
Pintail -----	0.3
Gadwall -----	0.1
Shoveller -----	Trace
Sub-Total, marsh ducks -----	36.2
Scaup and Redhead -----	33.8
Goldeneye -----	5.3
Canvasback -----	1.8
Bufflehead -----	0.2
Old-Squaw -----	0.4
Ruddy Duck -----	0.1
Scoters (all Species) -----	13.5
Sub-total, diving ducks -----	55.1
Canada Goose -----	1.7
Snow Geese -----	Trace
Other Geese -----	Trace
Brant -----	0.7
Sub-total, geese and brant -----	2.4
Merganser (all species) -----	5.2
Coot -----	1.1
Swan * -----	Trace
Unidentified -----	Trace
Sub-total, miscellaneous -----	6.3
Total birds observed ** -----	4,234,499

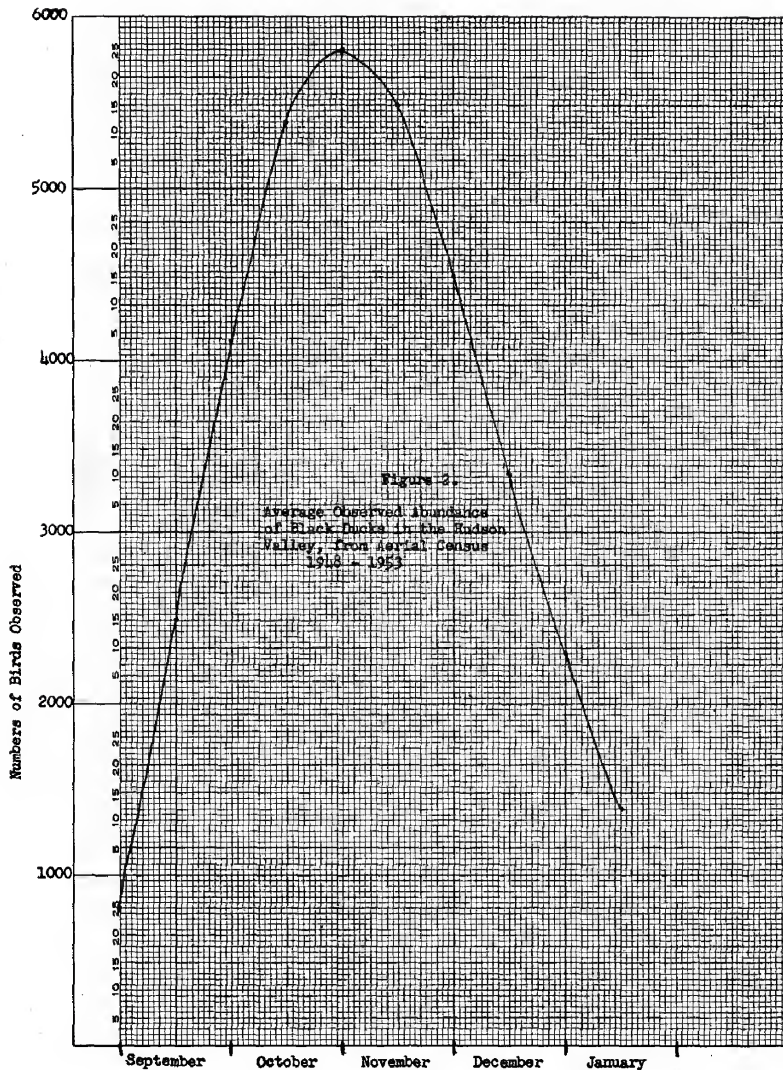
* Does not include mute swan.

** Eight flights each year except 1952 - 53 when only 5 flights were made.

We realize these are not absolutely accurate figures since they omit many species (some of which cannot, or at least have not, been separated, from the air) and do not truly census such species as wood ducks which normally inhabit dense cover. But we feel they provide fair *indices* when done the same way each year.

CHANGES SEEN

Over the years of the periodic "censuses," we have recorded changes in the numbers observed of some species. In 1948, for instance, baldpate comprised only 2.4 per cent of those observed, and every year there has been an increase until on the mid-October flight of 1957 they amounted to nearly 6 per cent. Along with this overall increase, we have noticed that baldpate, instead of being restricted largely to the better quality marshes of central New York, now migrate down over most of the State and New England.



Mallards also have been seen to increase as migrants over late years, especially in the central and western parts of the State, but also over most eastern parts as well. Whether this is due to an eastern extension of range into what used to be mallard breeding habitat (but from which they were supposedly extirpated in the late 1800s) or whether the increase is a result of large-scale game farm stocking by several states, including New York, is not known. Possibly it is due to both factors.

Canada geese have also exhibited some startling changes in recorded abundance. Over most falls of the survey, geese did not average much more than one per cent of all waterfowl observed, but during 1950 the thousands seen along Lake Ontario and the Finger Lakes amounted to nearly 4 per cent of all birds counted. And we are all aware of the extremely heavy

migration enjoyed over the eastern half of the continent last fall. Apparently the combination of a good breeding season and an early triggering of migration from the North sets the stage for a widespread "invasion" by geese in the states, and possibly the establishing of traditions to be used later.

While not visible from New York's figures alone, the recent decline in redheads and canvasback is clearly seen when Atlantic Flyway yearly totals are compared. At this point, I should emphasize that during the mid-winter "inventory" each January, all areas on the continent are censused, either by the state or province concerned or by pilots and crews of Fish and Wildlife Service. The recorded abundance of redheads on the wintering grounds, for instance, dropped from about 900,000 five years ago to less than 250,000 in January 1960. Less than 40,000 were recorded in the Atlantic Flyway. You can easily see the value of such data in this case, and the reason for the curtailment of seasons for such endangered species.

BREEDING SPECIES

There is no real good way of assessing the relative abundance of the breeding populations in eastern North America from year to year. Several years ago we attempted similar types of aerial transect coverages that are presently operational on the prairie "duck factory," but our data were too variable for proper analysis. Factors which we here in New York had to overcome but were not present in the West were ruggedness and changeability of the terrain, non-homogeneity of the waterfowl habitat, low duck density, and cluster problem areas such as marshes, lakes and rivers. Analyses of three years of such data from New York showed me that some other approach was needed. We still need one, although certain types of ground surveys covering a representative section of habitat types, when coupled with phenological data and especially water level studies, will possibly provide fairly good indices.

The major breeding waterfowl species in New York are the black duck, mallard, wood duck and blue-winged teal, and together these probably make up over 95 per cent of the yearly production here. The other five per cent is made up largely of scattered broods of the various mergansers (the hooded being most widely distributed) and intermittent nestings of green-winged teal, gadwall, pintail, goldeneye, ruddy, and a small area in the Adirondacks where ring-necks breed. In addition to this, we have tried to establish the redhead on certain good-quality marshes, and in 1960 they bred at four sites. On one of these, our newly-impounded Wilson Hill Game Management Area near Massena, we also recorded three broods of baldpate this year, which made us quite happy. This area, which would make an excellent field trip, has also supported breeding populations of blacks, mallards, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, woodies, hooded mergansers, shovellers, and perhaps gadwall and ruddies, the last two years. Mute swans nest on Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley, and geese on and near our larger Game Management Areas. There have been reports of nesting brant and scaup, but without authentication, I believe.

CHANGES SEEN

The ups and downs of our breeding species are hard to determine even on one large, complex wetland area, and nearly impossible on a statewide basis. But we felt that for some species, places and years we have been able

to detect changes, these usually being tied in with those phenological factors mentioned before.

Over the years, the black duck, the mainspring of our waterfowl population, has remained at a fairly stable level in the statewide picture. Locally, conditions may have changed materially, and small swamps and marshes may actually have been obliterated, but the blacky is an extremely hardy, adaptable and secretive bird and can change its habits to fit a wide variety of conditions. In studying a series of local water units we have seen the production on one or another drop, while the total production of the whole complex might remain very similar, the "slack" being taken up by one of the other areas. It is such principles as these, to which most animal species respond, which are hard for many persons to understand when their background includes only a superficial knowledge of some of the factors involved.

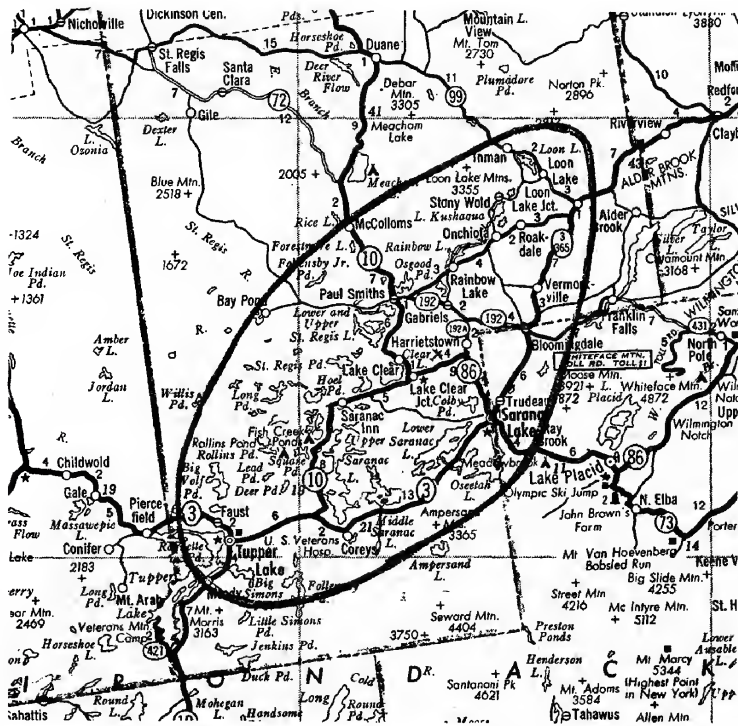


Figure 3. Known Breeding Range of the Ring-necked Duck in New York

The ring-necked duck, which "invaded" the East in the '30s and '40s, first being recorded in New Brunswick and Maine (although I may have seen it on Middle Saranac about 1932), and was first found with a brood at Jones Pond in 1945, is now known to breed over a 500-square mile area in the vicinity of Saranac Lake, Tupper Lake, McCollums and Inman (Figure 3). We are much interested in this species from many standpoints, and would like to hear of any other records of nesting either from within or outside this territory. From all reports, however, the initial "pioneering"

period is well over, probably having been stimulated by the drastic reduction in habitat in central Canada during the Duck Depression of the '30s, and possibly large-scale changes in distribution may not occur again unless another such catastrophe happens.

The common goldeneye, such an interesting bird with such beautiful downy young, may be on the downgrade in the Adirondacks. Being one of our three hole-nesters, it may have been greatly affected by the big blowdown of 1950. In the Scandinavian countries management of this bird involves the placement of nesting boxes, and it is possible that a similar program here would do for the goldeneye what we have done for the wood duck in some areas.

On Long Island is our only consistently-used breeding area for gadwall. Discovered with young on Jones Beach Pond in 1947, this bird apparently built up to a high density of up to 20 broods through 1950-52, but since then has declined to fewer and fewer broods each year. This is probably due to the changes in the nesting habitat which have occurred. In the 40s, much of the surrounding sand dunes were just becoming covered by fast-pioneering grasses and forbs, which no doubt seemed just like home to this prairie grassland nesting species. As the woody species moved in over the years (cat-brier, poison ivy, and bayberry), the grasses lost out, and so did the gadwall. Luckily, however, our Department's agreement with the Town of Oyster Bay has every hope of bringing this area back to optimum waterfowl use.

WINTERING SPECIES.

Many of the same species which come through during the fall remain with us over winter, although not to the same extent upstate as they do on Long Island. In the Hudson Valley the principal wintering bird is the black duck, remaining wherever there is open water, and only a comparatively few mallards, goldeneyes, canvasback and mergansers keep them company. The average wintering population here has been about 4,000 birds. Lake Champlain's average is even less, but chiefly because it more often freezes and drives most birds away.

The Ontario-St. Lawrence normally winters from 10,000 to 20,000 waterfowl, the greatest percentage of which are scaups and goldeneye, but up until a few years ago large numbers of canvasbacks stayed here for most of the colder months.

Lake Ontario (together with Niagara River and part of Lake Erie) has held on the average about 10,000 birds, although in recent years this average has generally been exceeded, principally due to large numbers of goldeneye and scaup on the lower Niagara and Lake Ontario nearby, and to canvasbacks on the upper River.

The Central Lakes winter habitat, composed chiefly of the larger Finger Lakes, harbors anywhere from 15,000 to 20,000 birds during our January census. These would run nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ dabblers and $\frac{3}{4}$ divers with only a few geese and miscellaneous species. Dominant divers are scaup, canvasback and redhead; the black duck is the big dabbler.

Long Island winters the lions share of New York's waterfowl, nor-

mally between 60 and 70 per cent. Of these, about half are the various divers of which greater scaup is the most numerous at this season. The black is again the mainstay of the dabblers, but there are also large numbers of mallards and, in recent years, an upswing in the numbers of baldpate. Scoters, brant, goldeneye, merganser and canvasback are others that loom fairly large, although some of these are not widely distributed.

CHANGES SEEN.

Almost every January has resulted in some changes in wintering populations from the year preceding. Sometimes an increase in New York could be correlated with an overall increase in the Atlantic Flyway, as with the black duck through the early years of the census; but often there seemed to be little connection, as with the canvasbacks and redheads the last several years. While we saw ups and downs in the state totals for these species, there was no downward trend revealed until we analyzed the Flyway data. Apparently, we were merely wintering a larger proportion of the Flyway's birds on occasion, and these are difficult things to anticipate or even account for. Some of the Atlantic Flyway's difficulties are inherent in the fact that many species arrive here only after passing through the northern part of the Mississippi Flyway, where varying proportions of them may spend the winter from year to year. For instance, sometimes we have been able to time the arrival of sizeable additional flocks of canvasbacks or scaup on Niagara River or Finger Lakes with the freezing of the Detroit River, Lake St. Clair or Long Point Bay. But by and large, we generally make no pronouncements based on our own State's "inventory", and rarely even after we have digested the composite data for the whole Flyway. The Fish and Wildlife Service is in the best position to do this, and they do use the information, both as a check back on the previous year's production minus the calculated kill and also as a background from which the succeeding year's production must come. This latter fact is especially important to this Flyway, since we presently do not have operational breeding ground surveys of any real value in eastern Canada.

This theme of cooperation is a good one with which to conclude. Not only do all states in this Flyway have excellently trained waterfowl technicians engaged in investigative work, but the Fish and Wildlife Service maintains two Flyway Biologists here, as well as other less specialized personnel, to help coordinate all this work. In addition, many of the Canadian Provinces and the Dominion Wildlife Service have dedicated people studying the situation. The wetland and waterfowl problem has probably the best organized and coordinated program of any in the wildlife field today. And while we may say that it is small indeed in terms of money and manpower when compared with the assault made on certain medical problems, the results have been considerable and promise to be greater all the while. We can be sure of waterfowl for the future, and of places to hunt and otherwise enjoy them.

Wildlife Research Laboratory, Delmar, N. Y.

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- Wilson, John E. The status of the Hungarian Partridge in New York. *Kingbird* 9:54-57.
- Young, Charles F. J. A North American sight record of the Redwing. *Wilson Bull.* 71:382-383. (Jamaica Bay).
- Biology Department, St. Bonaventure University and State University of New York — College of Education.
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FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Thirteen new members have been placed among those on the 1960 list.

Barten, Hortense, Mariposa, Old Chatham
 Booth, Mrs. Robert, 1085 Bank St., Painesville, Ohio
 Ernest, Christine C., 399 State St., Albany 10
 Foster, John, 14 Utica Place, Rochester 8
 Goldman, Dr. Sanford G., 1070 Park Ave., New York City 28
 Hayes, Samuel D., P. O. Box 16, R. D. #1, Greene
 Listman, Walter C., 68 Ontario Blvd., R. D. #2, Hilton
 Shields, Walter E., 275 Caroline St., Rochester 20
 Tetlow, Thomas E., 11 Gregory St., Rochester 20
 Thorpe, Heather G., 3435 Edgewood, Ann Arbor, Mich.
 Warren, Thurman, 16 Marshall Lane, Chappaqua
 Wertman, Mrs. W. Howard, Morner Road, R. D., Rensselaer
 Watson, Dr. James M., V. A. Hospital, Syracuse 10
 Albert W. Fudge,
 Chairman of Membership Committee

NEXT KINGBIRD

The tenth anniversary of *The Kingbird* will be observed by a larger issue in December. In addition to the usual features, it will contain several articles on varied subjects and a complete membership list of the Federation. All new members for 1961 will receive this anniversary number and their names will appear on the roster if they send their applications with dues to the treasurer **before December 1.**

FIELD NOTES

American Widgeon Breeding near Massena: The Wilson Hill Game Management Area is an 1800-acre stabilized impoundment on which construction was completed in July 1958 by the New York State Conservation Department in cooperation with the New York State Power Authority. The area is five miles west of Massena, adjacent to the St. Lawrence Power Pool (Lake St. Lawrence).

The response by waterfowl since the initial flooding in 1959 has been exceptionally good. Blue-winged Teal, Blacks, and Mallards are the common nesting species, but Pintails, Shovelers, Wood Ducks, and Green-winged Teal are found in lesser numbers as breeding species.

During the late spring of 1960 a census of nesting pairs indicated that American Widgeon were established on breeding territories. The annual brood census conducted at Wilson Hill on July 7, 1960 substantiated the fact that these birds were breeding there. The following count was made at the West Pool:

American Widgeon, female	7 young; 1-2 weeks
American Widgeon, female	7 young; 2-3 weeks
American Widgeon, male (4 adults)	
American Widgeon, female	no young observed

On July 26, 1960, Dirck Benson, Waterfowl Project Leader of the NYS Conservation Department, sent a memo to us with regard to brood counts made by the Waterfowl Research Staff on July 18, 1960. This memorandum indicated that three broods of American Widgeon had been observed on the east pool of the Wilson Hill Game Management Area, but there was no reference to brood size or age.

These observations would indicate the establishment of a nucleus breeding population of American Widgeon on the Wilson Hill area. To the writer's knowledge, this constitutes one of the very few New York State breeding records for this species, at least in recent years (Ed. note — the American Widgeon appeared at Montezuma Refuge as a breeding species in the summer of 1959; see **Kingbird**, October, 1959, p. 126. As Sally Hoyt points out in her regional summary in this issue, the American Widgeon bred again at Montezuma this year. With the upkeep of suitable nesting habitat, it seems probable that this species will, like the Ruddy Duck, increase its nesting range in the eastern states. Are there other places in New York State where the American Widgeon is now known to breed?).— John E. Wilson, New York State Conservation Department, P. O. Box 84, Watertown.

A Partially Albino Hummingbird: On July 22, 1960, Mrs. Robert Meylan noticed an unusual hummingbird in her garden in West Nyack.

The bird was the size of a ruby-throat, but there was no iridescence or metallic sheen on its back. The back was a soft buffy tan, and the tail feathers were somewhat darker. The tail itself was rounded, the outer feathers being tipped with white. The crown was a light lemon yellow; the eyes and bill dark; the cheeks, throat, underparts, and wings pure white.

The bird would perch for five to ten minutes at a time in an apple tree while preening its feathers. Then it would dart out in true hummingbird style to feed, with wings aflutter, on the red flowers of bee balm. I succeeded in getting one good picture, a 35 mm Ektachrome slide, taken with 300 mm lens, f8 at 1/100 second. I would judge the bird to be a female albino Ruby-throated Hummingbird. — Marjorie R. Hopper, 278 North Midland Avenue, Nyack 4.

Red-breasted Nuthatches Breeding in Rensselaer County: During the first part of September 1959 more Red-breasted Nuthatches than usual were seen in our section of Nassau, Rensselaer County. As many as eleven were counted on September 9 feeding on seeds under a stand of white pine. A pair was seen at frequent intervals throughout the winter at a suet feeder. With the arrival of warm spring days in April, 1960, I made daily trips to the pine grove. A pair was noticed almost every day, and on April 29 the male was feeding the female, indication of the possibility of a nesting pair. On May 10, after three hours of watching and

listening for the feeding call of the male, I located the nest in a small hole five feet from the top of a dead tree trunk perhaps thirty feet high. When the tree was lightly tapped, the female would poke her head out of the hole.

But where was the pitch that was supposed to be daubed on the rim of the nesthole? Not a speck could be seen at first, but on May 21, eleven days after the nest had been located, the first pitch was in place. By June 7 the entire rim of the nesthole had been daubed with pitch so plentifully that it was dripping down the old tree trunk.

I can vouch for the fact that young Red-breasted Nuthatches are hungry individuals indeed. In one hour on that date (9:00 — 10:00 AM) the parent birds together made 97 trips with food for their young.

The nesting site was surrounded by old apple trees, white pines, Norway spruces, maples, a few red cedars, and was at an elevation of 450 feet.)Editor's note — A similar nesting was also reported from Red Rock during the spring of 1960 by Mrs. Myra Smilow. Red rock is located in Columbia County about ten miles south of Nassau. Insofar as is known by local observers, these constitute the first area breeding records for the Red-breasted Nuthatch). — Beatrice Shineman, Nassau.

Mockingbird Nesting in Onondaga County: During the second week of June, 1960, a singing Mockingbird was noticed near the Harry Yeiser home on Broad Road, on the outskirts of Syracuse. A second bird soon appeared, and about this time the male ceased singing.

On July 2 Mr. Yeiser observed one of the birds going in and out of the spruce trees on his property, and on investigation he located a nest with several young. On July 3 there were four rather well-feathered young. The four young birds successfully left the nest sometime later, and the entire family group disappeared shortly thereafter. The nest, young, and adult feeding the young were all duly photographed.

Area records for the nesting of the Mockingbird are limited. There was a report from the Geneva area a few years ago, and Professor Guthrie of Keuka College reported an active nest near Branchport earlier this year.

I wish to thank Mrs. N. P. McGowan for bringing the significance of this particular nesting record to my attention. — Benjamin P. Burt, 109 Haffenden Road, Syracuse 10.

Hawk Owl in Oneida County: On March 16, 1960, while coming in from the Oneida County Airport (Whitesboro), I observed a Hawk Owl perched in a tree less than forty feet from the road. Although it was overcast, the day was bright and the light very good.

The bird was roughly crow-size, and it had the longest tail I have seen on an owl. It perched on the branch, more like a hawk. The breast was heavily barred and the face marks enunciated, as Peterson notes, with "sideburns".

I returned about two hours later, but the bird had flown away. I also searched again the following day, but with no success. — Winston W. Brockner, 63 Ardmore Place, Buffalo 13.

Tufted Titmouse Nesting on Long Island: A couple of decades ago the Tufted Titmouse was regarded as a very rare visitor on Long Island. According to Allan D. Cruickshank, *Birds Around New York City* (1942), less than four yearly reports normally came from the area, the bird being a rare possibility at any time of year. Several years ago one wintered at the border of Massapequa and Seaford in the Tackepausha Preserve. It was a familiar sight, popular with visitors, and the bird was frequently photographed. Since then the Tufted Titmouse has been reported from time to time on the north shore of western Long Island.

Becoming Titmouse conscious, Long Island ornithologists have reported several recurring or lingering birds during the past year.

In *Audubon Field Notes* (Vol. 14, No. 3, June, 1960) Charles K. Nichols, after noting the northward ranging of the Tufted Titmouse with two reported in Franklin County in northern Massachusetts and several others farther south in the Connecticut River Valley, remarks "the species is extending its range on Long Island; two were seen at the Roosevelt Bird Sanctuary at Oyster Bay on March 19, a first record for the locality (J. Callaghan)".

These birds apparently remained, and in June they were reported to Mr. Callaghan. The birds were back in the sanctuary in dense deciduous woods and again were observed and reported to this writer by Donald Richter of Rockville Centre who at that time saw adults feeding fledging young which were just about able to fly. This was in late June.

Strangely enough, in this, the first year of an authentic nesting of the Tufted Titmouse on Long Island, comes a second report of a breeding pair, feeding three or four young. These were found in early July in an attractive area of pine barrens at Brentwood about ten miles east of Oyster Bay by John Mayer of So. Ozone Park and George Rose of Garden City. — John J. Elliott, 3994 Park Avenue, Seaford, Long Island.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SUMMER SEASON JUNE 1 — AUGUST 15

JAMES K. MERITT

The summer period was comfortably cool. In New York City, for example, the temperature did not once reach 90°, something of a rarity there. Rainfall varied greatly by month and by locality. There were no tropical storms, but in the western and central part of the state localized cloudbursts and windstorms were reported. In spite of the damage that these setbacks caused there the summer of 1960 produced a generally successful nesting season for most species.

Bluebirds, unfortunately, were not among this majority, although breeding pairs were reported to perhaps the degree expected in view of the birds' scarcity during the spring. It is undoubtedly true that the Bluebird will remain a "disaster species" for some years to come. The situation this summer was encouraging only in that it could have been bleaker.

Goshawks were reported as nesters in Regions 1 and 4, and this species was also observed in Region 7, where it is more to be expected. The Goshawks's smaller cousins, the Sharp-shin and the Cooper's, were almost universally scarce during the period, as indeed were most all the hawks. Reports of nesting Turkeys in the central and western part of the state indicated some success in the long battle to bring this species back to at least some semblance of its former status. Nesting Mockingbirds were reported more frequently than before. Waterfowl in general had a very good breeding season.

As a general rule, summer birding lacks the spectacular features that heighten interest in other seasons. The nesting species are sedentary, and this is a characteristic rapidly acquired by many observers as the warm weather arrives. In actuality, summer provides the ideal opportunity to learn a great deal about habits and habitats. Surveys such as the one conducted in the unique Tug Hill Plateau area south of Watertown add considerably to our ornithological knowledge. Many other such surveys are needed on a continuing basis in other parts of the state.

The Cattle Egret expansion continued, as this summer the bird was reported from Region 2 for the first time. Other reports came from Regions 3, 5, and 10. The Cattle Egret has now been observed at one time or another in at least eight of the ten reporting regions. This bird's days as a non-breeder in New York State seem limited; Cattle Egrets now nest regularly and not

uncommonly in the heron rookeries of Cape May County in southern New Jersey. At present, that is the northernmost known breeding locality for that species in this country.

The southbound shorebird migration was, of course, well underway by August 15. Of especial note among this group were the Avocet and Hudsonian Godwit on Long Island, the Baird's Sandpiper in Region 5, and the Wilson's Phalarope in Region 3. A Gull-billed Tern was an unusual summer visitor to Long Island.

The northward post-breeding wandering of white herons was apparently even lighter than that of last summer. This would appear to be true in spite of good nesting results at known rookeries to the south of us.

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

RICHARD C. ROSCHE

Weather conditions throughout the period were about normal. Pleasant weather with moderate temperatures and intermittent rainfall was generally the rule. At Buffalo precipitation and temperature averaged only slightly above normal. However, southern tier areas received the heaviest amount of rainfall in 25 years during mid June and this trend tended to continue into early July. A severe wind-storm on June 24 caused widespread damage.

In general, the nesting season was a successful one, although passerine birds, particularly flycatchers, thrushes, some warblers and some sparrows appeared to be nesting later than usual, perhaps a result of locally adverse weather conditions. Few late spring migrants were reported in early June. The first noticeable autumn movement of passerines occurred during the last four days of the period. Water levels at many inland ponds and lakes remained relatively high, thus exposing little shoreline or mudflats for shorebirds, or feeding areas for migrant dabbling ducks.

The first known Goshawk nest since 1908 and the first known nesting of the White-throated Sparrow were the outstanding records of the period in this region. A July Cape May Warbler and a nest involving a female "Brewster's" Warbler were also noteworthy.

Loons — Ducks: An interesting inland summer record was that of a Horned Grebe on a small stream in Allegany State Park Jul 4 (Beal). Another in nuptial plumage with an injured wing occurred Aug 12 in the gorge at Niagara Falls (Schaffner, Brownstein). Great Blue Herons nested successfully in at least four inland locations. A new heronry containing about ten nests was located near Portville, Cattaraugus County (Eaton). The heronry at Ten Mile Hollow near Vandalia was also occupied this year (Eaton). Young were leaving about nine active nests in early July at a heronry near Attica Center, Wyoming County, apparently a previously unreported site (Rosche). Near Hamlet, Chautauqua County, there were about 32 nests in a heronry that has been active for at least 10 years (Rew). Noticeable increases in abundance began to occur in early August, juveniles comprising about 75% of the individuals observed. Likewise, Green Herons increased in early August, a maximum of 17 being counted Aug 13 in Wyoming County (Rosche). Reports of Common Egrets were few. Single individuals were seen at Delaware Park, Buffalo on Jun 13 (Knox) and Aug 8 and 10 (Filor). One was observed at Oak Orchard Refuge Jul 24 (Schaffner, Brownstein), one occurred Aug 9 at Prendergast Point, Chautauqua Lake (Rappole, Bohall) and two were known to have been near Clymer in late July (Webster et al). Several Black-crowned Night Herons were reported, but this species continues to remain scarce, especially in the immediate vicinity of Buffalo. One Least Bittern Jun 13 at East Eden Pond was the only report (Bourne). After being somewhat more infrequent than usual during the spring and early summer, American Bitterns appeared in good numbers in favorable habitats in late July. When considering the Mallard and Wood Duck as nesting species in this region, one cannot overlook the importance of small ponds and wildlife marshes that have been constructed in many areas. This appeared to be especially true this year,

with broods of either or both species being of common occurrence on many of these ponds. Maximum number of Mallards was 106 in western Wyoming County Aug 6; Wood Duck, 87 in the same area Aug 13 (Rosche). Black Ducks appeared to be about normal in abundance whereas the usual mid-summer increase in Blue-winged Teal populations almost failed to materialize in some inland areas. Six immature Hooded Mergansers first appeared Jul 17 at Wethersfield Springs; 8 immatures were there Jul 24 and 2 remained until Aug 13 (Rosche et al). This species has been known to nest within five miles of this location, but these could fly well and are probably best considered as early migrants. The first migrant Green-winged Teal appeared at Wethersfield Springs Aug 13 (Rosche). Migrant Pintail, American Widgeon or Shoveler were not reported during the period. Single Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye and Oldsquaw, two Lesser Scaup and two Red-breasted Mergansers were reported from the gorge at Niagara Falls Aug 12 (Schaffner, Brownstein).

Hawks — Owls: One of the most outstanding ornithological events in the region in recent years was the location of a Goshawk nest during June in a remote section of Allegany State Park by Mr. Karol T. Klonisky, Park Forester. Visiting the nest site Jun 29, Bourne, Mitchell and others observed two adults and two nearly full grown young. Photographs taken by Robert Andrie show broad grayish-white superciliary lines on the young birds. Another Goshawk was observed well at Waterman Swamp near Napoli Jun 26 (Mitchell, Nathan). A nest containing four young Sharp-shinned Hawks was observed Jul 10 near Sinclairville (Beal). Another individual at Java Lake Bog Jul 24 (Mitchell et al) was the only other report of this uncommon raptor. Cooper's, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks appeared to be about normal in abundance, the latter two species being represented by a marked increase in immature birds beginning in early August. One young Broad-winged Hawk near Holland in July was the only report (Byron). Usually there are several reports from southern tier areas. Marsh Hawks continued to be scarce, but the normal early August movement of females and/or immatures was somewhat encouraging. Sparrow Hawks appeared to be more common in the Allegheny Plateau region than usual, perhaps reflecting their unusual abundance there last winter. Ruffed Grouse seemed to have good brood success in most areas. According to the New York State Conservation Department, Turkey brood success was moderately good. There will again be a three day hunting season in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties this year.

Rail reports were few, perhaps because of high water conditions in many marshes. However, Soras with recently hatched young were observed Jun 14 in three marshes of the Allegheny River Valley, Cattaraugus County (Eaton). Continuing a trend established in early spring, Killdeer seemed to be down in numbers. The usual increase in early August did not reach previous proportions, at least in Wyoming County (Rosche). American Woodcock and Spotted Sandpiper appeared to be about as common as usual. Common Snipe began congregating in various marshes in late July. The frequency and abundance of Upland Plover was impressive, probably indicating above normal populations, especially on the lake plains. An adult with four young Jun 12 near Freedom at about 2000 feet was an interesting record (Schaffner, Rosche). Prendergast Point on the western shore of Chautauqua Lake with its ten species of shorebirds Jul 30 (Webster et al) represents a new inland location from which previous shorebird data is apparently lacking. The following are arrival dates of migrant shorebirds in the region: Semipalmated Plover, Jul 30; Solitary Sandpiper, Jul 24; Lesser Yellowlegs, Jul 24; Pectoral Sandpiper, Jul 24; Least Sandpiper, Jul 30; Semipalmated Sandpiper, Jul 30. A Baird's Sandpiper, rare at any time in inland areas, was reported from Prendergast Point Jul 30 (Webster et al). Cuckoos were about normal in abundance, although several observers had the impression that the Black-billed was more numerous on the lake plains than in most years. A Barn Owl nest was located in the town of Hamburg (Bourne) and another was reported from the village of Brocton (Rew, Webster et al). Single Barred Owls were reported Jun 19 from Freedom Bog, northwestern Cattaraugus County (Rosche) and Jul 26 from Oak Orchard Refuge (Mitchell et al). A Long-eared Owl was heard calling Jul 30 in the village of Hamburg (Bourne), a noteworthy record of a bird whose status during the nesting season in this region is relatively unknown.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Common Nighthawks and Chimney Swifts appeared in about normal numbers in suitable location. Belted Kingfishers also seemed to be

about as common as usual, their numbers rapidly increasing in late July. Perhaps a result of the severe early spring weather conditions in this region and in areas to the south, Yellow-shafted Flickers appeared to be somewhat below normal in abundance. Records kept for certain areas in Wyoming County for 1959 and 1960, show almost a 50% reduction in breeding pairs in 1960. Only one Red-headed Woodpecker observation was brought to this writers attention — one in the town of Lancaster Jun 26 (Webster et al). Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were scattered in the southern tier counties, but the absence of records from the northern part of the breeding range in the region, suggests below normal populations. All species of flycatchers seemed to be generally less common than usual during the early part of the nesting season. However, all seemed to be about normal, with the possible exception of the Eastern Phoebe, after early July when song intensity increased. Dr. Stephen Eaton reported seven pairs of Phoebe nesting in Ten Mile Hollow near Vandalia where a maximum of ten pairs had been known to nest prior to 1958. In July three Phoebe nests were found in Wyoming County containing the bodies of young that had recently died (Rosche et al). In all cases they were heavily infested with small parasites. One Acadian Flycatcher was reported from Clarence Jun 1 (Brockner). There was a good flight of Eastern Kingbirds from the end of July through the end of the period. The first migrant Olive-sided Flycatchers were observed Aug 14 near Mayville (Rew). Good numbers of juveniles among mid summer flocks of Horned Larks, indicated a generally successful nesting season. Among nesting swallows, mass fatalities because of inclement weather conditions were unknown. Cliff Swallows were unusually more widespread, small colonies being found in several locations farther north in the region than in most years. In Wyoming County peak numbers of Tree Swallows occurred Jul 10, Bank Swallow Jul 10, Barn Swallow Jul 17 through Aug 6, Cliff Swallow Aug 13 and Purple Martin Jul 31 (Rosche). The number of reports of Tufted Titmouse and Carolina Wren decreased during this report period, compared with those of the past eight months. On the other hand, the Brown Creeper was observed more frequently than in most years in northern type habitats in southern tier areas. Single birds were recorded Jun 5 and 18 at Eagle Bog, Wyoming County (Rosche et al), Jun 26 at Waterman Swamp (Mitchell et al) and near the top of White Hill, elevation 2500 feet, Allegany County (Eaton et al) and Aug 14 near Hermitage (Rosche et al). Two were observed Jun 29 at Allegany State Park (Mitchell et al). No change in the status of the House Wren was apparent. A rare summering bird in the region, a singing Winter Wren was observed Jun 26 at Waterman Swamp (Mitchell et al). The Long-billed Marsh Wren appeared to reach normal breeding populations in regular nesting localities unusually late. In some areas, none occurred until late June. Small colonies of Short-billed Marsh Wrens were established near Gainesville and near Wethersfield Springs, Wyoming County (Rosche et al) and at a regular station at the Wolcottsville Sinks, Genesee County (Schaffner, Brownstein). Reports of this species become less frequent each year. Probably a remnant of the major March 1960 invasion, a Mockingbird was observed Jun 20 through 24 at Lewiston (Robertson, Owen et al). During the heavy windstorm Jun 24, an injured Mockingbird was picked up in the same area. The bird, a male, died Jun 25 and is now in the collection of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences. Nesting thrushes appeared to be about normal, although the song period in some areas extended later into the summer than usual, thus probably indicating a delayed nesting season. Hermit Thrushes were reported from widely scattered areas in the southern tier counties. However, they did not return for the third consecutive year to former breeding areas in Wyoming County, the northern part of the breeding range in western New York. Swainson's Thrushes occurred at several localities in the southern tier, notably at White Hill and Alma Hill, southwestern Allegany County, Jun 25 (Eaton et al) and at Waterman Swamp Jun 26 (Mitchell et al). Reports of Eastern Bluebirds during the nesting season were rather discouraging. Scattered birds were reported; a few were known to nest in boxes, but it is not possible to judge the success or failure of the nesting season in this region from the reports on hand. Somewhat encouraging were two flocks totaling 15 individuals and comprised mostly of juveniles, observed near Attica Aug 13 (Rosche et al). These probably were migrants, which usually appear with the first flocks of migrant Robins at this time of the year. Suggestive of a late spring migration, several Swainson's Thrushes were heard calling as they flew over Buffalo during the night of Jun 4 (Brownstein). A migrant Verry was reported Aug 14 from Niagara Falls (Heilborn). A Blue-gray Gnat-

catcher nest was found at the Tonawanda Indian Reservation during June (Nathan et al) and a single individual was observed at Taylor Hollow near Lawtons Aug 15 (Mitchell et al), both previously known nesting locations. Normal breeding populations of Cedar Waxwings were still moving into the region during the first ten days of June. Noteworthy was a Loggerhead Shrike nest at Freedom, Cattaraugus County, elevation about 1800 feet, Jun 18 (Schaffner, Rosche). Another Loggerhead Shrike was observed Jul 3 at Dunkirk (Krayna).

Vireos — Warblers: The Yellow-throated Vireo appeared to be re-establishing itself in this region, after a noticeable range withdrawal during the past five years. Reports of probable breeding birds came from a variety of habitats at elevations ranging from slightly above 300 feet on the lake plains to 2500 feet near the top of White Hill, Allegany County. An interesting ecological situation appears to be developing and one which warrants further investigation by the field student. Solitary Vireos were reported from several southern tier areas, but most observers thought they were not as widespread as in many previous years. The Prothonotary Warbler was not reported from its regular station at Oak Orchard during the period. The Blue-winged Warbler continued to expand its breeding range, most noticeably toward higher elevations in the central section of the region. Few observations of this species are usually reported after the song period ceases, hence two observed Aug 6 near Attica Center (Rosche et al) and two at Taylor Hollow near Lawtons Aug 15 (Mitchell et al) were of interest. A male Blue-winged Warbler x female "Brewster's" Warbler nest found May 30 at Zoar Valley, Cattaraugus County was of special interest (Kirsch, Brettles et al). Most observers agreed that the Nashville Warbler was more common and widespread than in most years. Singing males were heard and observed in many southern tier localities between about 1650 feet at Java Lake Bog and 2500 feet at the top of Alma Hill, Allegany County. A Cerulean Warbler at Taylor Hollow near Lawtons Aug 15 was the only report during the period (Mitchell et al). Louisiana Waterthrushes nested at Chestnut Ridge Park (Freitags) and near Versailles (Schaffner et al), Erie County, and it is now known to occupy eight different streams in southern Cattaraugus County (Eaton). A Yellow-breasted Chat observed Jun 30 and Jul 7 at an abandoned quarry in suburban Buffalo was of special interest (Freitags). None were reported from previous regular stations. Magnolia, Chestnut-sided and Canada Warblers appeared to be nesting somewhat later than usual. Migrant warblers, indicative of an early fall movement, were reported during the last three days of the period. An unusually early Tennessee Warbler was reported Aug 15 from Taylor Hollow (Mitchell et al). Migrant Canada Warblers first occurred at Lewiston Aug 13 (Klabundes) and at Niagara Falls Aug 14 (Heilborn). Magnolia and Chestnut-sided Warblers and American Redstarts were moving through Wyoming County Aug 13-14 (Rosche). Most unusual was an adult Cape May Warbler in spring plumage observed satisfactorily under excellent conditions Jul 3 in a mixed woodland at 1860 feet near Hamlet, Chautauqua County (Rew).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Successful nesting seemed to be the rule with all the Icterids. A good flight of Bobolinks commenced in early August. The Western Meadowlark was not reported. An Orchard Oriole, rare in the region, was seen Jul 14 in the village of Hamburg (Bourne). Some observers thought the Scarlet Tanager was far less common than usual, whereas the Rose-breasted Grosbeak appeared to be much more abundant than normally. The Cardinal continued to expand its range in the region. It was found regularly for the first year in a number of locations above 1500 feet in Wyoming County (Rosche). Field nesting sparrows in some areas, especially in the southern tier, appeared to have suffered from locally heavy rains during June. Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows were not singing well in many regular nesting localities until mid July. Interesting was the report of a singing Grasshopper Sparrow Jun 25 at 2500 feet at the top of Alma Hill, Allegany County (Eaton). Small colonies of Henslow's Sparrows were noted in several areas at elevations bordering 2000 feet. One pair and at least two additional singing male White-throated Sparrows were found Jun 11 and 18 at Java Lake Bog, Wyoming County. One singing male was observed at the same locality periodically through Jul 18. On Jul 24 a pair was found feeding young out of the nest by seven members of the Buffalo Ornithological Society (Rosche et al). Although there had been previous summer reports, this was the first known apparent nesting in the region.

48 Dartmouth Avenue, Buffalo 15

REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

The weather for the period was cooler than average and much cooler than the corresponding period a year ago. While last year there were fourteen days with temperatures of 90° or over, this year produced but one day when the temperature reached that mark. June was about average in rainfall, July was very dry with rainfall less than one half of normal, and the first half of August was very wet with almost twice the normal precipitation for the period. The rather high water level gradually receded during the period, but even then good shorebirding areas along the lake were very few compared to the last two or three years. At the end of the period the water level at Shore Acres, Irondequoit Bay, and all the bays west of Rochester except the "west spit" of Braddock's were still too high to produce areas suitable for shorebirds.

The outstanding event for the period was the first and second regional records of the Cattle-Egret. Barn Owls nested in at least two locations in the region. Tufted Titmice, Carolina Wrens, and Mockingbirds apparently had wintered fairly successfully and all probably brought off small numbers of young. Eastern Bluebirds seemed to be increasing in Livingston County and were at least holding their own in Monroe County.

Loons — Ducks: A Pied-billed Grebe was seen Jun 6 at the Elmwood Ave. Marsh (Landsman and Lank), and another was noted Jul 30 at Manitou (Listman). This species has been very uncommon during the summer in this area the past few years. An immature Double-crested Cormorant was seen at Manitou Jun 17-24 (Listman).

An estimated 40 adult and young Great Blue Herons were seen Jun 25 in a rookery in Bristol Hills (Foster et al), and 40 were seen Jul 17 at Groveland (Listman). Two Common Egrets were observed Jul 30 at Cranberry Pond (Tellow et al), and one was at Groveland on Aug. 14 (Foster et al). The first regional record of the Cattle Egret was of a bird seen Jun 1 at the C. Morton Wadsworth farm in Parma. It was carefully studied by the Wadsworths, John Brown, and Alfred Starling, but it was not seen subsequently. On Jul 2 two birds of this species appeared at a small pond near Hilton (Tanghe). They were present until Jul 15, were tame and carefully observed under favorable conditions by almost all the bird watchers of the area. A Least Bittern was noted Jul 29 (Schmanke), and one was seen Aug 14 at Silver Lake (Rosche).

An adult Whistling Swan was noted on Jul 4 and 5 at Braddock's (Starling et al). A lone Brant was seen there on Jun 8 and again on Aug 14 (Listman). A Pintail was at Braddock's on Jul 15 (Listman), and two were noted at the same locality on Jul 27 (Listman). A Green-winged Teal was seen west of Braddock's on Jul 4 (Listman). An American Widgeon was observed in Parma on Jun 11, and on Jun 3 there was a Shoveler at Rose's Marsh (Listman). A White-winged Scoter was seen Jun 11 at Manitou (Listman), and a Red-breasted Merganser was noted Jun 30 at Braddock's (Listman). All these waterfowl records except for the Green-winged Teal probably represent wandering, non breeding birds. There is a suspicion, not yet verified, that the Green-winged Teal nests at Braddock's.

Hawks — Owls: Sixteen Turkey Vultures were seen in the Avon - Leroy area Jun. 19 (Haller et al). A Cooper's Hawk was seen that same date near Avon (Haller). A Red-shouldered Hawk was observed Jun. 4 at Powder Mill Park (GOS hike), one was seen at Avon on Jun 19 (Haller), and one was noted Jul 4 at White Swamp near Rochester (Starling et al). An immature Bald Eagle was seen Jun 26 at Braddock's (Listman). There were two Marsh Hawks throughout July at Cranberry Pond (Listman). This species has become scarce during the summer in this area. An American Coot was seen Aug 6 at Perry (Rosche).

One hundred Killdeer were seen Jul 17 at Groveland (Listman). A Ruddy Turnstone was at Summerville on Jul 23 (O'Hara et al). A Common Snipe was seen Jun 26 at Braddock's (Listman), and 12 were noted Aug 9 at the same locality (Starling). Two adult and three almost grown young Upland Plover were observed Jun 25 near Honeoye Lake (Cameron et al), and an adult with young was seen west of Braddock's Jul 2 (Listman). Five Greater Yellowlegs were at Groveland on Aug 14 (Tellow et al). A Lesser Yellowlegs was seen Jun 28 at Groveland (Listman), and 12 were seen there on Aug 14 (Foster et al). The first report of the Knot for the year was a bird seen at Manitou Aug 13 (Starling). Two Pectoral Sandpipers were observed at Sodus Jul 15 (Foster), and ten were seen Aug 14 at Groveland

(Tetlow et al). A Baird's Sandpiper was seen Jul 27 at Manitou (Kemnitzer); this constitutes the year's first record. A Least Sandpiper was at Groveland on Jun 28 (Listman), and three Short-billed Dowitchers were at Manitou on Jul 18 (Listman), three were noted at Ling Road Jul 23 (O'Hara et al), and three were seen at Perry on Jul 30 (Rosche). Semipalmated Sandpipers seemed to have arrived rather early, forming the bulk of the "peep" on most lists from Jul 15 on. A Sanderling was seen at Summerville on the very unusual date of Jun 25 (Miller). The bird seemed in good condition except for a slightly lame leg.

An immature Great Black-backed Gull was seen Aug 5 at Braddock's (Listman), and there was a Little Gull there on Jul 30 (Starling et al).

Yellow-billed Cuckoos seemed more common than usual, with a high count of six being reported Jun 4 in the Powder Mill Park area (GOS hike). A pair of Barn Owls raised an underdetermined number of young in a cable housing on a Barge Canal Lock just southwest of Rochester, and another pair hatched a single young bird from three eggs laid in the top of a silo west of Braddock's Bay. The young bird fell to the bottom of the silo but seemed unharmed. The one or possibly two young Great Horned Owls seen near Durand-Eastman Park Jun 19 (Miller) show the tendency of this species to cling to a general area in spite of changes in the section brought on by suburban development.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: A pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers attempted to nest in Webster Park in Rochester but suddenly disappeared before the young had left the nest. A bird of this species was seen at Summerville Jun 25 - Jul 3 (Miller), five were noted at Conesus on Jul 2 (O'Hara) and a young bird was seen near Mount Morris Aug 14 (Tetlow et al). Some of these records would indicate a slow increase in this area. A Least Flycatcher was observed Jun 11 west of Manitou (Starling et al), and one was seen near Springwater Jun 24 (Listman). Two Cliff Swallows were seen Jun 4 at Braddock's (Listman), and a pair was found nesting at Webster's Crossing on Jun 23 (Foote, Listman). A pair of Tufted Titmice was observed feeding three young birds Jul 13-20 just east of Irondequoit Bay (McNeth). A Carolina Wren was in the same area from May to at least Jul 13 and may have nested (McNeth). Two Short-billed Marsh Wrens were seen Jul 4 near Hilton (Starling et al), and one bird was seen Jul 23 near Shore Acres (O'Hara). A Mockingbird was noted feeding a young bird Jul 13 in Webster (McNeth, McGee). Robins seemed down in numbers, at least in the Rochester area. Eastern Bluebirds increased in Livingston County (Haller). Seven were seen near LeRoy Jun 19 (GOS hike), and the species has nested in Fairport (Jones) and in Webster (McNeth, McGee). Two or three Golden-crowned Kinglets including one juvenile were seen Aug 6 in a picea grove in Letchworth State Park (Rosche). At least three loggerhead Shrikes were present Jul 4 near Hilton. This probably indicated a nesting pair in the vicinity.

Vireos — Warblers: A Black & White Warbler was noted Jun 10 at Manitou, and another was at Springwater Jun 28 (Listman). Seven Golden-winged Warblers were seen in the Powder Mill-Fishers area Jun 4 (GOS hike), and four were observed Jun 19 in the Avon-LeRoy area (GOS hike). A Blue-winged Warbler was seen Jun 4 at Fishers (GOS hike). Another was at Avon Jun 19 (Haller), and four were seen near Portageville Aug 14 (Rosche). Two Brewster's Warblers were noted Jun 4 in the Powder Mill-Fishers area.

A Nashville Warbler was seen Jul 3 at Ganneth Hill (Starling), and three Black-throated Green Warblers were noted in the Bristol Hills on Jun 25 (Foster et al). Eight Cerulean Warblers were seen in the Powder Mill-Fishers area Jun 4 (GOS hike), and one was noted near the Groveland Flats Aug 14 (Tetlow et al). Two Blackburnian Warblers were seen Jun 25 in the Bristol Hills (Cameron et al), and one was seen Jul 20 in Webster (McNeths). Four Chestnut-sided Warblers were seen Jun 19 at LeRoy (GOS hike). Three Louisiana Waterthrushes were observed in a glen in the Bristol Hills on Jun 25 (Miller et al), and two were seen at Conesus Lake on Jul 2 (O'Hara). Three Yellow-breasted Chats were observed west of Hamlin Beach Park Jun 4 (Listman), and there were two at LeRoy on Jun 19 (GOS hike). A Canada Warbler was seen Jul 31 near Ellison Park (Davis), and several others were reported during the period from areas further south.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: A singing Western Meadowlark was reported Jun 19 in Penfield (LLoyd), and another singing bird was reported Jun 20 on the lawn of the West Webster School (Kemnitzer). A Slate-colored Junco was seen Jun 3 at Manitou (Listman), and another bird was seen there on the remarkable date of Jul 2 (Listman). Much less unusual was the record of six in the Bristol Hills on Jun 25 (Cameron et al).

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY F. HOYT

The reporting period was cool and dry. Rainfall was about 60% of normal, and temperatures did not get into the 90's. Nights were comfortably cool. While the early part of the season was characterized by a seeming scarcity of individuals of many species, nesting success seemed reasonably good, and August, in most sections, was jumping with juveniles. At Avoca, however, Mrs. Carter commented on an appalling scarcity of birds throughout the season. The southward shorebird migration got off to a very slow start.

The highlight of the season was the addition of three species as breeding birds in the region: Hooded Merganser at Montezuma (I have learned of an early 1950's record, but I have no written verification of it), and Myrtle Warbler and Prairie Warbler, both on Connecticut Hill. Other highlights included the Yellow-throated Warbler (Sycamore variety) which remained in Stewart Park through July, and the nesting of the Clay-colored Sparrow, mated with a Chipping Sparrow, in the Cayuga Heights section of Ithaca.

Loons — Ducks: Five Common Loons spent the summer on Keuka Lake, an usual occurrence (Guthrie, Loomis). Great Blue Herons seemed to be in good numbers everywhere, and Green Herons nested this year at Sapsucker Woods. Three Cattle Egrets were seen on Jun 10 two miles north of Tyre, on the West border of Montezuma Federal Wildlife Refuge (fide G. Cummings). Common Egrets were in below normal numbers at Montezuma, with a peak count of 22 this year. None seen at Elmira this year. One dropped in at Sapsucker Woods on Aug. 14, the second record there, and one was on the Canisteo River at No. Hornell Jul 25. American Bitterns seemed unusually scarce this year; there were none at Keuka, none at Sapsucker Woods, and few at Montezuma. There were almost no Least Bittern reports, but I am inclined to think this is partly from lack of coverage of likely areas.

Eight Canada Geese were seen on Cayuga Lake the last week in June by R. Hough — reason unknown. Mallards were somewhat less numerous at the head of Cayuga (P. Kellogg) but otherwise seemed to be successful in nesting. There were six broods at Sapsucker Woods. Blue-winged Teal had good success on the various conservation ponds in the Ithaca area. Five or six broods of Wood Ducks were raised at Sapsucker Woods, varying in number from one to eleven in the count of those finally fledged. In the Elmira area Wood Ducks enjoyed good nesting success too.

The Hooded Merganser mentioned in the last report was seen off and on at Sapsucker Woods through June, but there was no evidence of nesting even though the female had succeeded in attracting an immature male into the area.

At Montezuma Federal Wildlife Refuge the number of duck broods showed an increase again this year, thanks to the closing of the dikes. Blue-winged Teal dropped off slightly, but most species did as well or better than last year. The brood count follows: Mallard 21; Black Duck 9; Blue-winged Teal 19; Gadwall 9; Redhead 3; Wood Duck 12 (double last year); Ruddy Duck 4; American Widgeon 1; and — a newcomer to the list; Hooded Merganser 2. Canada Geese raised three broods.

Hawks — Owls: With the increase in protection throughout the state one wonders at the continuing apparent scarcity of all hawks. All were reported scarce in the Geneva-Waterloo area (Walker). Cooper's, Sharp-shins, and Red-shoulders were missing around Keuka. Marsh Hawks were unreported at Ithaca during the period. In other summers I could almost count on a soaring Redtail in the sky as I drove from Etna to Sapsucker Woods; I did not see one during the reporting period. Sparrow Hawks alone, it seemed, were to be found in their customary locations. Five were raised on Baker Hill Road, east of Ithaca (L. Pearsall).

Ruffed Grouse were not found nesting in Sapsucker Woods, but two broods were seen in early August nearby (A. A. Allen). A King Rail was found at Montezuma in early August (F. Scheider). Broods of Wild Turkeys were seen near Troupsburg (fide Margeson), and there was some evidence that two broods were raised on Connecticut Hill, southwest of Ithaca (Kelsey). Virginia and Sora Rails were present in normal numbers at Spencer Marsh. Soras seemed less abundant than usual elsewhere. Rails, Gallinules, and Coots were unreported at Keuka.

A report of six Ruddy Turnstones on Jun 6 at Shell Drake Pt. on Cayuga Lake (J. Wells) probably marks the end of the northward or "spring" migration. The first southward bound or "fall" migrants were seen Jul 8, 9, and 10. Two Least

Sandpipers were present at Cayuga on Jul 8 (PPK). Solitary Sandpipers were at Elmira on Jul 9 (fide M. Welles), and singles of the Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral, White-rumped, and the Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen at Montezuma on Jul 10 (J. Walker). No shorebirds except Spotted Sandpipers were found around Keuka during the reporting period.

A real attempt was made this year to learn of all stations for Upland Plover. The birds occurred as always just west of Dryden (P. Kelsey), and they were also found just west of Peruville, off the Peruville-South Lansing Road, where it was reported they have nested for several years. A nesting pair was found by K. Thorp six miles south of Aurora, along Route 90. Nesting in the Elmira area was also definitely established this year, two pairs being found at the East Corning Pond, and one adult and one chick being seen on the mall of Route 17 on Jun 12.

A Wilson's Phalarope, considered only accidental in the region, was carefully identified $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Weedsport on Route 31B on Aug 6 by H. Axtell; the bird was seen later by others. The Northern Phalarope reported at Elmira on May 31 was still present on Jun 1 in spite of children and dogs splashing nearby.

More Common Terns than in past years nested at Montezuma Refuge, and the early appearance of young ones at the south end of Cayuga seemed to indicate nearby nesting. The first Caspians arrived on Aug 1 (PPK).

The only comment I have received on Mourning Doves this summer was that they were abundant at higher elevations in the Watkins Glen area (Bardeen).

Cuckoos seemed so abundant around Ithaca, with a ratio of three Black-bills to one Yellow-bill, that it was a surprise to learn that they were "not abundant at Burdett" (Bardeen), just in usual numbers at Elmira (Welles), and that Yellow-bills were absent at Avoca and Black-bills scarce (Carter). Waterloo, however, had good numbers. There continued to be reports of these birds being killed by flying into windows. However, a large striking-looking bird a Cuckoo might be reported when found dead, whereas a smaller and more drab bird might not be.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: There were not as many Nighthawks as usual over Hornell (Grosbeck). All correspondents remarked on scarcity of Humingbirds. Red-headed Woodpeckers remained extremely scarce in the Ithaca area. A few reports of one around Beebe Lake on the Cornell campus indicate this may be the survivor of the pair that used to nest in Forest Home. On Jun 21 one was found nesting on E. Seneca Lake Road just north of the old Sampson Gate, and Thorp reported one bird on Michigan Hollow Road, south of Ithaca, on Jun 19. Other parts of Region 3 have more reports. The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker raised young this year in Sapsucker Woods. Phoebees were reported as scarce throughout the region (25% of normal at Avoca) except at the Hornell Reservoir, where as many as usual were to be found, but Grosbeck says they were never common there. Traill's Flycatchers were up over five years ago (R. Stein), but Leasts and Pewees were still down in numbers.

Reports on swallows throughout the region are too conflicting to summarize. The only agreement was that Cliff Swallows were scarcer and Rough-wings seemed not too successful this year. The other species had good success in some areas, poor in others. Purple Martins increased at Keuka, with more houses available. The Sapsucker Woods colony numbered seven pairs this year.

Blue Jays were certainly successful nesters around Ithaca, and they were also on the increase at Geneva. Many observers reported families being brought to feeding stations unusually early. Crows were scarcer this summer at Jasper (Margeson).

Tufted Titmice nested at Keuka College again and seem well established there (Whitaker). Young Red-breasted Nuthatches left their nest in the Cayuga Heights section of Ithaca around Jun 6. As mentioned in the last summary, this is the first nest of this species found in the Cayuga Lake Basin. Two pairs of Brown Creepers raised young at Sapsucker Woods. House Wrens continued scarce — one pair where there used to be two or three. Ward reported that the Carolina Wren has remained at Geneva since putting in its appearance there. Both species of marsh wrens reported as very scarce or missing, and there continued to be fewer suitable habitats.

A pair of Mockingbirds (one of which wore a band and may have been an immature banded last year at Penn Yan by M. Lerch) built a nest at the Larzelier residence near Branchport. Nothing came of it, however, and neither bird was seen after Aug 8 (fide Guthrie). A Mocker was seen several times in June on Coddington Road

near Ithaca (R. Hough). Robins were still scarce at Ithaca, but up some at Hornell. They were plentiful in the country but scarce in the city at Elmira. They were in near-normal numbers at Avoca, but scarcer in the country there. Many young Robins were found dead in that area in June (Carter). Robins were plentiful at Geneva (Walker). Wood Thrushes everywhere were in better numbers than in the last two years. They nested near me, in Etna, for the first time, and I banded two young in the yard in August. There were 16 singing males in Sapsucker Woods, as against 13 last year. Veeries, too, have picked up a little, but Hermit Thrushes remained scarce. The Bluebird story is a heartbreaking one. Some reporters said none were seen all summer. Others spoke of seeing their first bird in early August. Large areas had only one pair nesting. However, near Ithaca, Hartshorne reported that in at least a few causes unoccupied boxes were taken over at the time of second nestings by this species, and so his mid-summer count was better than the spring one.

The first Pipit report was of five on Aug 10 at Horseheads (K. Fudge). Cedar Waxwings seemed abundant and had good nesting success. Loggerhead Shrikes were scarce; one was seen just north of King Ferry on Aug 10 (D. McIlroy).

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-throated and Warbling Vireos were scarce. Red-eyed Vireos were in better numbers; for example, 24 pairs nested in Sapsucker Woods, in contrast with 14 pairs last year.

Brewster's Warblers were again reported from several localities, and a female Brewster's was found Jun 25, along the RR tracks in Varna, feeding young. Her mate appeared to be a Golden-winged, but on other days a male Brewster's and a male Blue-winged had been seen in the same locality. This population deserves watching in the future. Yellow Warblers were in good numbers — possibly the only Warbler of which this could be said. Magnolias nested in the spruce plantings on Connecticut Hill. The Myrtle Warbler has been added to the list of breeding species in Tompkins County; a pair was feeding young on Conn. Hill (in pines) on Jun 25 (Scheider, Hoyt), and Kelsey found three Myrtles on Jul 7 about a mile away, also on Conn. Hill. The Yellow-throated Warbler mentioned in the last report sang off and on during June and was found again, still singing, the last week in July, in the same tree at Stewart Park, Ithaca (Kutz). The Chestnut-sided Warbler was scarce throughout the region. Another species definitely established as a breeder in the region was the Prairie Warbler, found feeding a Cowbird on Jun 21 (A. A. Allen) and seen again with food in its bill on Jun 25 (Hoyt). Interestingly enough, the Prairie was in the same spruce plantation with Magnolia Warblers, an unusual place for prairies. The Allens found four empty nests in the spruce planting.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolinks were scarce around Ithaca, Burdett, and Hornell (where Groesbeck says fields have been plowed and houses built in all former locations), but plentiful at Elmira and Avoca. Meadowlarks seemed in good numbers throughout the region. Redwings and Grackles were reported everywhere in record-breaking numbers. Redwings, as usual, seemed to disappear in mid-August, going into seclusion to moult, but Grackles continued to be everywhere. An albino Redwing appeared for the second year near Jasper (Margeson).

Many young Cardinals were seen in August, later broods seeming to be more successful than earlier ones. There were two reports of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks feeding on jewel-weed (Impatiens) seed pods near Avoca. Mrs. Carter found 15 of them so engaged. This may be a sometimes overlooked favorite food in late summer. All remarked on the good numbers of Indigo Buntings and their nesting success. At Avoca ten were found in a 20-mile drive. The female Evening Grosbeak mentioned in the last report remained at the feeder south of Ithaca until Jun 17. Purple Finches were at my feeder all summer for the first time. M. Smith reported juveniles at Elmira on Jun 8. Goldfinches were about a week late in beginning nesting this year. Most nests had eggs in mid-August.

Mrs. Carter reported Towhees scarcer in the Avoca area; only five were found in a stretch that usually had twice that many. Henslow's Sparrows were scarce in the Keuka area. Walker reported around Waterloo Chipping, Field, Vesper, Swamp, and Song Sparrows were all to be found in normal numbers. The Ithaca Clay-colored Sparrow (see July, 1960, **Kingbird**, p. 65) mated with a female Chipping Sparrow, fed her on the nest, and assisted in feeding the young. There were three eggs on Jun 13. Young and both parents were photographed on Jun. 22. On Jun 24 the young were taken by an unknown predator, probably a Blue Jay, during a short period when the nest was not under observation. This nesting record will be written up in detail and published later.

There were three reports of White-throated Sparrows singing in June and July near Ithaca, but no evidence of nesting was found.
Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

Weather records show that on average it was one of the wettest Junes on record with temperatures near normal, July was cool and dry and the first fifteen days of August were close to normal with regard to both temperature and precipitation. There was no day during the period when the temperature reached ninety degrees in Binghamton and the wetness of June far out-weighted the dryness of July so the whole period could be characterized as wet and cool.

The weather event that stood out, head and shoulders, above all others during the period was the cloud burst that hit Endicott, Endwell, Johnson City and Vestal June 17. The weather station at Broome County Airport,, by no means at the center of the storm, recorded better than three inches of rain in one hour, 0.8 inches of which fell in the first five minutes. It was estimated that half again as much fell at Endicott and Endwell. The resulting flash flood turned streets into rivers and put all streams over their banks in a matter of minutes. In many low lying areas the water was well up the walls of first floor rooms and cars were covered or even washed away before they could be started and driven to higher ground. Such a storm at that season must have caused a considerable number of casualties among low nesting bird species. At the same time it removed practically all the evidence so that the effect on one Bank Swallow colony is all we know with any certainty. Because the storm affected only a limited area we cannot expect over all populations to be affected enough to be readily noticeable.

Goshawks and Swainson's Thrushes were the only additions to our list of known "northern" summer residents, but some others such as Winter Wrens, Slate-colored Junco, and White-throated Sparrows were found in new areas. Our first summer Mockingbird and more than the usual number of Red-headed Woodpeckers were the biggest news among our southern species.

The Whimbrels found at Oneonta were new to our regional list.

Loons — Ducks: Great Blue Herons were seen more frequently than usual in most parts of the region; but were missing from one area near Oneonta where they have been found in previous years (R. Burland). The newly found colony near Whitney Point was active but no one was able to make a count of nests in use. A Common Egret near Owego Aug 10 (C. Gerould) and three second hand reports from Delancey in Delaware Co., Whitney Point and Deposit were all so far. There were no reports of Black-crowned Night Herons. American Bitterns were present at Otego, Norwich and Owego. "Lots of Mallards, Black Ducks, Wood Ducks and some Blue-winged Teal" in northern Chenango Co. (R. & S. White).

Hawks — Owls: A Turkey Vulture was at Choconut Center Jul 9 (R. & M. Sheffield) and another was over Oneonta Aug 7 (R. Burland). A letter from Paul Kelsey, District Game Manager, states that "Goshawks have been nesting in northern Chenango Co. for at least the last ten years. During the last five I have known of two nesting pairs." The nests were not located this summer but the hawks were seen in their usual places. The exact locations are not being disclosed in the interest of protecting the birds. Red-tailed Hawks did not seem up to their normal numbers except at Oneonta, but Red-shouldered and Broad-winged Hawks were reported more often than usual. An adult Bald Eagle was at Deposit Jul 22 (S. Wilson). Marsh Hawks were very scarce throughout the region. A Peregrine Falcon was reported at Oxford Jun 6 (A. Stratton).

A Virginia Rail was seen with two downy young Jun 12 near Sherburne and Jul 17 a Sora was at the same place (R. & S. White). A Common Gallinule at a small marsh in Vestal Jun 26 (M. Sheffield, V. Misner, J. Vivier) is the only one reported so far this year anywhere in the region. Common Snipe were again present at the large marsh near Sherburne (R. & S. White). A flock of Whim-

brrels was seen near Goodyear Lake outside Oneonta around Aug 1. One of the birds was injured and about Aug 6 was picked up, still alive. It was turned over to Dr. J. New of Oneonta State Teachers College and is now in the collection there. Upland Plover were not found at Guilford this year but there were some at Sherburne (R. & S. White) and during the breeding season they were also seen in the towns of Virgil and Lapeer in Cortland Co. and Pharsalia in Chenango Co. (R. Kelsey). A Solitary Sandpiper near Johnson City Jul 15 (L. Bemont), another at Sherburne Jul 31 (R. & S. White), a Baird's Sandpiper near Choconut Center Aug 14 (R. & M. Sheffield) and Least Sandpipers at Owego were the only obviously transient shorebirds other than the Whimbrels reported during the period. A Common Tern, a seldom seen species in this region was at Norwich Jun 21 (R. & S. White). Mourning Doves seem less common than in previous years at Oneonta (R. Burland). Yellow-billed Cuckoos seemed to be back to normal after last year's especially poor numbers and Black-billed Cuckoos returned to normal from their peak of last year.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-wills were reported near Owego, but no where else. On Aug 5 a large flock of Chimney Swifts, approaching 1000 in number, was seen entering the chimney of a church in downtown Binghamton about 8:15 in the evening (R. & M. Sheffield). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds seemed scarce at Owego (M. White) and Newark Valley (L. Dean). Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported unusually frequently. There were five different sightings in the same area of Endwell spaced out through the period, but never more than one bird at a time (F. Linaberry, L. Bemont, R. Tuthill). The "first for years near Norwich" was there Jul 17 (R. & S. White) and a pair found nesting in a dead elm just outside Cortland was the first known nesting record there in recent years (J. Gustafson). On Aug 12 still another was at South Plymouth in Chenango Co. (P. Kelsey). The apparent scarcity of Kingbirds in some parts of the region in May seems to have been the result of a slow migration since numbers became normal later. Phoebe continue to be somewhat scarce. At Oneonta Least Flycatchers were also scarce. Wood Pewees, on the other hand, seem to have improved in numbers over last year.

Bank Swallows were the most obvious avian sufferers from the flash flood of Jun 17. On Jun 12 one colony near Vestal consisted of about 300 active nesting holes, but on Jun 10 after some rebuilding only about 50 holes were left. Since Jun 17 is only a few days before young start leaving the nest the casualties at this colony must have been appalling. A few adults banded at this colony before the storm turned up later at other colonies (H. Marsi). A comparatively large number of Cliff Swallows flocked around the home of Dr. Gustafson in the Cortland area. 84 were counted one morning where only a handful are found in other years. There is no known active nesting colony nearby. Purple Martins — "all the houses in Cortland Co. were filled to capacity" and practically all the birds were gone by Aug 13, about a week earlier than last year (J. Gustafson). Two Red-breasted Nuthatches were at the same place near Norwich where they have been present the last few summers Jul 3 (R. & S. White). A Winter Wren was singing at Choconut Center Jun 12 (R. & M. Sheffield) and another was heard singing at Deposit Jul 27 (S. Wilson). They were also reported at Owego. Two Long-billed Marsh Wrens, a species that has been scarce around the Triple Cities for the past few years, were at a small marsh near Vestal Jun 26 (M. Sheffield, V. Misner, J. Vivier). A large marsh near Sherburne continues to be "loaded" with them (R. & S. White). A Short-billed Marsh Wren was singing at Norwich Jul 31 and another was at Pharsalia Aug 14 (R. & S. White). A Mockingbird was reported at Owego during the period (Allans, L. Cole). At Oneonta the breeding population of Robins was somewhat decreased (R. Burland). A Robin at Endwell, identifiable as the same bird by some abnormal white feathers, was apparently starting a nest for a third brood by Jun 29 (F. Linaberry). Hermit Thrushes seemed to be back near normal numbers after two consecutive poor years around Binghamton. Two Swainson's Thrushes at Pharsalia Jul 6 (R. & S. White) are of some interest. Oxford (A. Stratton), Oneonta (R. Burland) and Deposit (S. Wilson) all report "no Bluebirds". But at Owego there were "several reports of nesting" (L. Cole, B. Hulbirt) and at Choconut Center there were several successful broods (R. & M. Sheffield). At Norwich they "saw more Bluebirds in different localities this summer" (R. & S. White).

Vireos — Warblers: On Jun 5 four different singing male Solitary Vireos were found near Whitney Point (M. Sheffield, V. Misner). Golden-winged Warblers continue to be fairly common, around the Triple Cities but unreported in most other parts of the region. Jul 17 three different Brewster's Warblers were seen, one a young bird being fed by a Golden-wing (M. Sheffield). The old Blue-winged Warbler station near the south side of Binghamton was occupied during the breeding season again and on Jun 20 one was seen in a spot about five miles north of Binghamton where they were reported about six years ago but not since (L. Hevey). Myrtle Warblers were reported to be summer residents at the Pharsalia Game Management Area (P. Kelsey). Two Black-throated Green and four or five Blackburnian Warblers, all singing males, were found at Whitney Point Jun 5 (M. Sheffield, V. Misner). Ovenbirds seem to be somewhat less common than last year around Oneonta (R. Burland). A family of Northern Waterthrushes was observed at Ludlow, near Oxford, Jul 8 (A. Stratton) and another was singing at Neahwa Park in Oneonta Jul 31 (R. Burland). A pair of Mourning Warblers settled in a woodlot near Homer (J. Gustafson). They were also reported at Pharsalia (P. Kelsey, R. & S. White). Yellow-breasted Chats appear to have recovered from last year's low and are again moderately common, locally, in the Triple Cities area. A Hooded Warbler was found about five miles north of Binghamton Jun 20 (L. Hevey). It was not seen again in spite of several special efforts to find it.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: An estimated 200,000 Starlings, Grackles and Red-winged Blackbirds started roosting in an abandoned orchard in Cortland, apparently for the first time, this year about Aug 10 (Wilson). Scarlet Tanagers were scarce at Oneonta after spring migration but seemed normal in other areas. The increase in Cardinal populations continues to attract attention. There are now five or six known pairs in Oneonta (R. Burland). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks seemed especially common at Newark Valley, Cortland and Oneonta. At Cortland Indigo Buntings also seemed common, particularly in August (J. Gustafson). Grasshopper, Henslow's and Vesper Sparrows all seemed slightly more common than last year in the Triple Cities area. There were more than the usual number of summer records of Slate-colored Juncos. They were seen at Pharsalia (R. & S. White), Whitney Point (M. Sheffield, V. Misner) and Binghamton (L. Harvey) and two nests were found in near-by Pennsylvania (N. & E. Washburn) to go with the one at Candor reported in the last issue. There were also several reports of White-throated Sparrows including a nesting pair at Homer (J. Gustafson). At one point in the Pharsalia Game Management Area four could be heard singing every visit (P. Kelsey). Swamp Sparrows continued scarce at Oneonta (R. Burland).

710 University Ave., Endwell

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Fritz Scheider

June, July and the first half of August were persistently cool (averaging 2° daily below normal) and dry (four inches less than normal rainfall for the period) with occasional windstorms. The extreme dryness of these months rapidly dried up many marshes and ponds that had been brim full in mid-May. Correspondingly marsh birds, particularly rails, did rather poorly, but the dabbling ducks, nesting some weeks earlier, fared quite well. There appeared to be considerable nest and brood mortality from high winds in late June and early July; nests of Robins, Vireos, Redstarts, and Baltimore Orioles were reported blown down. Early mowing of the many hayfields in the area produced some losses in Pheasant, Bobolink, Meadowlark and Savannah Sparrow. However, the most striking change in local population was the frank scarcity of the Bluebird (five known pairs in the four counties around Oneida Lake). Also markedly reduced, but less so than the Bluebird, were the Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Purple Martin, Hermit Thrush, and Northern Waterthrush. Some observers noted further reductions in Savannah and Grasshopper Sparrows. On the positive side the increases in Common Gallinule, Traill's Flycatcher, Barn Swallow, House Wren, Catbird, Wood Thrush, and Warbling Vireo were particularly gratifying.

Further explorations of the Tug Hill Plateau for breeding birds occurred on June 11 and July 4 and 10. N. B. — The July 4 trip, though well organized and

planned to the hilt, was beset by cold weather, strong winds, and protracted jeep trouble. Other trips for breeding birds covered Camillus Valley, Rome Sand Plains, Labrador Pond, and the Brookfield area southeast of Hamilton.

Fall migration seemed, aside from shorebirds, desultory and thoroughly normal.

Rarities for the region for the period included Cattle Egret, breeding Mockingbird, and breeding White-throated Sparrow at Camillus Valley.

The following abbreviations will be used regularly in this summary: SP and SPI—Sandy Pond and Sandy Pond Inlet; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park near Pulaski; HIGMA—Howland's Island Game Management Area near Port Byron; TRGMA—Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinsville; THP—Tug Hill Plateau.

Loons — Ducks: No summering Loons were noted on Lake Ontario this year. Pied-billed Grebe; several broods at Stevens' Pond near Phoenix, at HIGMA, and at Sandy Pond point to a successful season despite low water levels in most marshes and ponds. Green Heron; 10-12 note at King Marsh, N. Syracuse, Jul 1-24 taking advantage of the increasing concentration of food as the marsh gradually dried up. Least Bittern: an immature attempted a "dead stick" act in the middle of Route 11 on Aug 15; it was found by R. Brown, photographed, and later released in Clay Swamp. Cattle Egret: one seen Jul 2 at HIGMA (Bauer) and another, an adult, Jul 24 near Mexico (Griffin, Scheider) are the second and third records, respectively, for the region.

Breeding ducks — broods of Mallards and Black Ducks appeared as numerous as in 1959, but brood size was distinctly down, most marked in Black Ducks and Wood Ducks. Blue-winged Teal and another stellar year, even breeding within the city limits of Syracuse; this species and the Mallard appear to have benefited most from the N.Y.S. Conservation Dept. Wildlife Marsh Program and from pond management at HIGMA and TRGMA (Bauer, Ernst, Taormina). Green-winged Teal: a single brood raised at Steven's Pond near Phoenix, the third year in succession. Broods of Shoveler, Pintail, and Gadwall were again observed at HIGMA (Bauer).

Migrating ducks — Fall arrival dates for some species were quite early; Gadwall — Aug 6; Pintail — Jul 31; Green-winged Teal — Jul 24; Shoveler — Jul 31; Hooded Merganser — Jul 24. Outstanding was the complete absence of American Widgeon from groups of gathering waterfowl at Sandy Pond, HIGMA, and TRGMA. Also of note was the complete lack of summering diving ducks at both Lake Ontario and Oneida Lake this season. Fall flocking was noted Aug 9 at Stevens' Pond (89 Wood Ducks and 200+ Mallards and Blacks) and Aug 14 (Estoff, Propst) at Tully Lake (300+ Mallard and Black Ducks and 48 Wood Ducks).

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: six-12 seen regularly at HIGMA and TRGMA; none noted north of Oneida Lake, and this species has yet to invade that portion of the region east and south of Oneida Lake. Hawks had their typical summertime scarcity, particularly the now rare accipiters. Broad-winged Hawk: two noted Jul 9 at Rome Sand Plains (Paquette) and one seen Jul 4 in the Tug Hill area OAS group). The Lake Ontario Bald Eagle nesting was again unsuccessful.

Ruffed Grouse: five broods seen Jun 11 in the Osceola area of the THP, plus six other broods reported; these figures plus the return of the Ruffed Grouse to the Sandy Pond dunes point to a rising Grouse population. Turkey: two broods of 15 each reported in June at HIGMA (Bauer).

Breeding shorebirds — Upland Plover were noted in seven areas (Rome x2, Onedia x3, Cicero, Pulaski), and several broods of three and four young were seen (Ackley, Aspinwall).

Migrant shorebirds were Act 1 in the drama of fall migration. Water levels at Oneida Lake and at Lake Ontario were somewhat high with consequent loss of available habitat. An early July "mooneye" kill along Lake Ontario created conspicuous rows of dead fish these in turn engendered a marvelous stench, keeping the human beach population at an all-time low, and provided a fair supply of food for the transient sandpipers. Onondaga Lake developed good mudflats (50% sewage, 50% mud) along the west shore and had an increasingly good showing of shorebirds through August. Arrival dates included Semipalmated Plover — Jul 24, Ruddy Turnstone — Jul 24, Black-bellied Plover — Aug 8, Solitary Sandpiper — Jul 10 (late), Greater Yellowlegs — Jul 19, Lesser Yellowlegs — Jul 1; Pectoral Sandpiper — Jul 18, White-rumped Sandpiper — Jul 31, Least Sandpiper —

Jul 7, Short-billed Dowitcher — Jul 24 (very late), and Sanderling — Jul 18. The July and early August flight was characterized by very low counts of Pectoral Sandpiper (max. — 25, Aug 14), Dowitcher (max — 21, Aug 14), and Solitary Sandpiper (max — three, Jul 31), with good numbers of Semipalmated Sandpiper (300 — Jul 24; 375 — Jul 31; 465 — Aug 14), Spotted Sandpiper (max 71 — Aug 14), and Lesser Yellowlegs (max — 86, Aug 14) (Ackley, Paquette, Rusk). Stilt Sandpiper: first noted were nine on Jul 18 at Onondaga Lake; one to 15, all adults, were observed intermittently thereafter to Aug 15; first immatures arrived on Aug 13 (five seen at Verona Beach), almost a full month after the adults had appeared locally. Better shorebirds for the period included Whimbrel (Hudsonian Curlew) Jul 24 north of Sandy Pond (Griffin) and a single Baird's Sandpiper Aug 13 at Verona Beach and Aug 15 at Onondaga Lake.

Common Tern: a colony of 70 nests found Jul 17 (the Thomases) on the waste beds at Onondaga Lake was a disaster area one week later (? rainstorm ?), when just six young and 40 demolished, soggy scrapes were noted; parenthetically it is pleasant to find that something can utilize those darn waste beds. Caspian Tern: first noted Jul 24, SP; max of 20 on Aug 6 and up to six at Onondaga Lake. No Forster's Terns were reported.

Barred Owl: three heard at Tully Lake through August (Estoff, Propst), one near Brookfield Jul 23 (the Whites), and several near Otter Lake in mid-August (Whitman) — all new stations for this species.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were scarce through the summer; the first migrants were noted at Sandy Pond on Aug 6.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: an adult male feeding cheerily to a downstudded immature at HIGMA Jul 3 establishes this species as a breeder there. Red-headed Woodpecker: a crash species this season; of nine previous pair locations only three were active this year. A new station was located near Centerville east of Pulaski (fide Evans), and a pair was noted near Utica (Curtis). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 14 seen near Osceola, THP, Jun 11; also 12 including juvenile birds noted on the Twenty-mile Road, THP, Jul 10; this species again bred at Tully Lake (Estoff, Propst). There was a pair at Labrador Pond Jul 16, and an immature was found the same day in a nearby N.Y.S. Reforestation Plantation, Fabius (Rusk, Thomas).

Eastern Kingbird: first migrants were 35 on Jul 24 along the Sandy Ponds dunes. Eastern Phoebe: numbers continued very low; many bridges around Oneida and Pulaski were still without resident pairs where they were found four years ago, and just two were seen in the THP on Jul 10. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: an adult heard and seen Jul 10, THP, would suggest possible nesting there. Traill's Flycatcher: the brushlots and swamps of the region were infested with this species; 20 heard in a small willow swamp near Brewerton Jun 1; 60 (all "way-be-o" form) heard Jul 10 in the THP. Olive-sided Flycatcher: three singing males located about small bogs Jun 11 near Osceola, THP; also seven observed Jul 10 along the Twenty mile Road, THP, including a fledgling, thereby confirming breeding there, heretofore only suspected.

Breeding swallows — Cliff Swallow: a colony of 26 nests located three miles east of Cicero was the first colony on the south shore of Oneida Lake in five years; the Oneida and Madison County colonies (Aspinwall, Nodecker) appeared to have prospered. Some 300 Tree Swallows were banded at Shackleton Point, Oneida Lake, and Bank Swallows were banded at Oneida (759 — Nodecker) and near Jordan (184 — Whitman).

Swallow migration — Despite greater coverage and an awareness of the possibility of such movements, no major swallow flights were detected at SPI this summer; maxima there were 2300 Tree on Aug 6, 3600 Bank on Aug 14, and 1800 Barn Swallows on Aug 14. Purple Martins, hard hit by the cold spring, had an extremely poor showing with a maximum of 400 on Aug 14.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: two adults and a juvenile Jul 9 at Rome Sand Plains (Paquette) proves this species a breeder there; it was also noted in three separate areas along the Twenty-mile Road, THP, Jul 10, and the Whites saw this species regularly in the Brookfield reforestation plantations southeast of Hamilton Jul 2 — Aug 6.

Winter Wren: 23, many in full song, noted Jul 10 in the THP; one, Aug 14, at SSSP (Evans, Rusk) must have been an extremely early transient as the species does not breed there. Carolina Wren: a single Jul 20 at Syracuse (Evans) was

unusual as summer records of this species are rather rare. No Short-billed Marsh Wren were reported throughout the summer.

Catbird: this species, like the House Wren and Traill's Flycatcher, appeared to be on a definite upswing; everybody had Catbirds, and a fair number were found dead on local highways, the victims of passing cars. Mockingbird: a pair raised four young at Onondaga Hill (Yeiser, fide Burt) this summer, a regional first!

The Hermit Thrush continued scarce as a local breeder; the maximum Rome Sand Plains count was 12 on Jul 9; max THP count was 15 on Jul 10. Swainson's Thrush: ten noted Jun 11 near Osceola, THP, and 30 including two fledgling young tallied Jul 10 on the Twenty-mile Road, THP, the first breeding record of the species there.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: adults with two young Jul 3 at Camillus Valley is the second breeding record for the area (Scheider); a single Aug 6 near Jewell (Mrs. Raynsford) is the second record in 15 years for the north shore of Oneida Lake. Golden-crowned Kinglet: a pair with two young Jul 4 (Ackley, Carter, Hoyt, Paquette) near Seven Mile Creek, THP, is both the first summering and first nesting record for this species for the Plateau. Cedar Waxwings: in terms of numbers, this was the tree-top counterpart of the abundant Catbird; counts of 12-90/day were numerous through July and August.

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-throated Vireos were down in numbers this year; a count of six Jul 3 on a combined Camillus Valley — HIGMA survey was low; max of nine Jul 14 at Tully (Estoff, Propst). Solitary Vireo: high tally of eight Jul 10, Twenty-mile Road, THP; also seen Jul 2 — Aug 6 in the Brookfield area near Hamilton (the Whites) where it may breed.

For ease and convenience warblers will be discussed thusly — (1) Tug Hill warblers. (2) other resident warblers, and (3) migrant warblers.

(1) — Tug Hill Warblers — Counts of singing males in that Parulid wonderland continued to be impressive. Maximum tallies made on the Jul 10 survey along the Twenty-mile Road (mainly spruce bog and stream edges alternating with second-growth deciduous vegetation) showed the following (young birds in parentheses) — Black and White 6; Nashville 12 (3), first breeding record; Parula 3 (two separate areas, two adults carrying food); Magnolia 62 (15); Black-throated Blue 44 (5); Myrtle 12 (2); Black-throated Green 40 (8); Blackburnian 26 (3); Chestnut-sided 120 (25); Ovenbird 38; Northern Waterthrush 25; Mourning 42 (several females with food but no nests were located); Yellowthroat 100 (12); Canada 24 (1); Redstart 39 (3). In contrast to the many Magnolia and Black-throated Green Warblers there, another survey taken Jun 11 along four miles of lumber road near Osceola in primarily deciduous second-growth (35-40 years old) with minimal bog situations showed the Black-throated Blue (22 singing males) well ahead of the Black-throated Green (ten s.m.) and Magnolia (six s.m.). Even more impressive, the Redstart continued to the lead position (60 s.m.), even more than the Chestnut-sided (26 s.m.), the species which could well be the symbol of the entire Tug Hill Plateau area.

(2) Other Resident Warblers — Prothonotary Warbler: five singing males noted in the maple swamp about Short Point Bay, Oneida Lake, Jun 9. Golden-winged Warbler: three fledgling young Jul 3 at Camillus Valley finally verified this species as a breeder there; two adults with two young Aug 6 at SSSP (Evans) were probably locally reared birds but might have been early migrants. Brewster's Warbler: an adult male carrying food Jun 19 at Camillus Valley was the only local record of this hybrid this year. Nashville Warbler: 20 adults with six juveniles Jul 9 along various roads in the Rome Sand Plains (Paquette) gave some indication of the abundance of this species there. Myrtle Warbler: unreported from Rome Sand Plains where but four years ago it was noted regularly in small numbers; seen in the Brookfield area, where it may breed, Jul 2 (the Whites). Cerulean Warbler observed again at Oneida Jul 4-10 (Ackley, Paquette) but no definite breeding record to date. Pine Warbler: the regular pair at SSSP brought off three young; another pair with three young Jul 9 (Paquette) at Rome Sand Plains was a first breeding record for that area; whether any young were produced by the Oneida River pair is a moot question, as the pine grove is on an island in the middle of the river, hence currently (no pun intended) uncheckable. Hooded Warbler: two young being fed by a superbly plumaged male Jul 3 at Camillus Valley confirmed this species as a breeding bird there.

(3) Migrant Warblers — a lack of sharp temperature changes and northwest winds in the first half of August precluded any rush of migrant warblers, and most fall arrival dates were about on time. On Jul 21 the first migrant Yellow Warblers were noted; on Jul 31 the first migrant Black-throated Green, Northern Waterthrush, Canada, and Redstart, plus 135 Yellow Warblers, were observed along the Sandy Pond dunes; on Aug 6 first migrant Black and White and Blackburnian Warblers were noted at SSSP and SPL; on Aug 11 Black-throated Blue Warblers and Ovenbirds were migrating at SSSP; on Aug 14 first migrant Bay-breasted and Wilson's Warblers were observed at SSSP and SP respectively (Evans, Rusk, Scheider). Aside from the counts on the many Yellow Warblers, tallies of migrants to Aug 15 were conspicuously low.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: a successful season apparently despite some losses to early haying; a first migrants noted Jul 24. The black Icterids had another outrageously productive year, and flocking in the thousands was underway as early as Jun 10. Cowbird parasitism appeared heavy, and examples of parasitism of Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireos, Black and White and Black-throated Blue Warblers, and Redstart were reported.

Cardinal: a pair persistently present through July at SSSP points to but does not prove breeding there (Rusk); nests and fledging young found in late June and July at Oneida (Paquette, Thurber) and at Westernville (May) show this species as a breeder in those areas. Indigo Bunting: numbers of this bright finch were distinctly up at Camillus Valley, HIGMA, and TRGMA, with a maximum of 20 at Camillus on Jul 3. Purple Finch: 22 noted Jul 10 in the THP; many males were giving flight songs and chasing females as if starting second nestings.

Grasshopper Sparrow: numbers appear to have stabilized at TRGMA; a colony of seven or eight pairs was discovered in early June near SSSP in a dry weedy meadow where two pairs of Henslow's Sparrows and a partial-albino Redwinged Blackbird were also observed.

Slate-colored Junco: five pairs with young noted Jun 11 near Osceola, THP; also found breeding at Labrador Pond (Rusk, Thomases) Jul 16 and west of Tully (Estoff, Propst) Jun 26. Chipping and Field Sparrows: a bumper crop of young birds noted at HIGMA and TRGMA (Ernest, Taormina) and in the Rome Sand Plains (Paquette). White-throated Sparrow: found in numbers (105, Jul 10) in the THP; summering birds noted at White Lake Jul 9 (Rusk) and near Brookfield Jul 2 - Aug 6 (the Whites), and breeding was established Jul 9 (five young) at the Rome Sand Plains (Paquette); a pair noted through June at Camillus Valley, the stronghold of many "southern" species, raised two fledglings seen Jul 3 (Scheider). What with southern species advancing northward and northern species moving south, the Transition Zone will soon narrow down to the width of N.Y.S. Thruway! Swamp Sparrow: 45 counted Jul 10 in the THP where it was actually more common than the Song Sparrow (25), but far less abundant than the White-throated Sparrow (q.v.); this species along with the Pied-billed Grebe, Green Heron, and Common Gallinule has benefited from the N.Y.S. Conservation Dept. Wildlife Marsh Program, utilizing both the willow tangles and the cattail margins of such places.

151 Seventh North Street, Syracuse 8

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

There was little hot weather during the period; the average temperature was one of the lowest on record. Rainfall was about normal until August when there was less rain. Weather conditions for nesting were good.

Loons — Ducks: There were no Cattle Egrets, but two Common Egrets were seen at Wilson Hill Game Management Area, on Lake St. Lawrence near Waddington, in late July and early August. Canada Geese nested there as well as at Perch River Game Management Area near Watertown. By the middle of August about 50 birds could be seen at each locality. These geese became fairly tame. Good numbers of Wood Ducks were reported at PRGMA in August. Shovelers and Redheads nested at WHGMA. It was a very successful nesting season for ducks in this region.

Hawks — Owls: On Aug 5 Gordon saw four Turkey Vultures north of Antwerp. This is the first time more than one has been seen at once. An adult and an immature Bald Eagle were sighted at El Dorado on Jun 18. Two Osprey nests were discovered, one in Jefferson County and the other in St. Lawrence County.

Among the birds seen at El Dorado were: Semipalmated Plover, Jul 23; Ruddy Turnstone, Aug 10; Solitary Sandpiper, Aug 10; Greater Yellowlegs, Jul 10 and Aug 10; Knot, Jun 18 (early); Pectoral Sandpiper, Jul 23 and Aug 10; Least Sandpiper, Jul 23 and Aug 10; White-rumped Sandpiper, Aug 10; Dunlin and Dowitcher, Aug 10; Stilt Sandpiper, Aug 10, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Aug 10; Sanderling and Caspian Tern, Aug 10.

Goatsuckers — Sparrows: Allen found Olive-sided Flycatchers and a Winter Wren near Edwards at the end of June. Gordon saw Bluebirds (a family with young) near Natural Bridge on Jun 28, and these seem to be the only ones seen in this region. Nests used this summer by Cliff Swallows were found near Rodman. Allen found Solitary, Yellow-throated, and Red-eyed Vireos near Edwards.

Allen spent Jun 26 to Jul 2 at a camp near Edwards in St. Lawrence County and found 15 kinds of warblers there. He heard 18 male Nashville Warblers singing in an area of 50 acres. He also saw Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Pine, Chestnut-sided, Mourning, and Canada Warblers as well as the Northern Waterthrush.

A Grasshopper Sparrow was seen a few times in June in a field near Watertown and probably nested there. White-throated Sparrows were reported to be increasing as breeding birds in parts of St. Lawrence County.

173 Haley Street, Watertown

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK - CHAMPLAIN

THOMAS A. LESPERANCE

The last few weeks of the reporting period were filled with anomalies. Cold inclement days were followed by intense humid ones. The maximum temperature recorded for August was 92°, the minimum 42°. Total precipitation was 1.60 inches. Number of clear days was 23, number of cloudy days 6, and number of partly cloudy days 2. These figures were for the valley areas, but in the higher elevations frost and freezing conjured up everything but snow. Boreal species flocked early and became pretentious by their numbers in some areas. As shown, it is a period of annual drought, streams becoming low or dry completely. Lake Champlain shores and beaches reach successively further each year toward the middle of the lake. It is stated in some papers that the water table has dropped in excess of 18 feet since the turn of the century. Too many factors are involved to go into the matter here, but it is the intent of this writer to take the matter up in committee at a suitable time in the near future.

Our area is fortunate in this reporting period to have had several creditable observers vacationing in the region who have submitted their findings and brought to light some otherwise lost sightings. Among the first notes I received was the comprehensive list by Mrs. Dorothy W. McIlroy, covering the area near and at Pisico Lake, where she vacations from her home in Ithaca. Also received and equally well written were the notes by a group of the Buffalo Ornithological Society, headed by Mr. Richard C. Rosche and including also the following observers: Arthur Clark, Dale Rubach, Arthur Schaffner, and Edward L. Seeber.

After making a plea for more observers in the area, which is so remote and extensive, I am more than pleased to announce that I have a new correspondent in the person of Harriet L. Delafield, who was recommended by Dr. Gordon Meade. This brings the total of observers to five, indeed a small number for the area, to be covered. It is hoped that we shall have five more by the first of the year. At one time there were ten, well disbursed, that gave excellent coverage for the areas mentioned.

Loons — Ducks: The Common Loon was reported from Tupper Lake (Amstutz) and Saranac Lake (Delafield). Three adult and nine downy young Pied-billed Grebes were observed at Lake Alice (Delafield).

Great Blue Herons were noted at Pisico Lake (McIlroy) and in the Matawaska area (Buffalo Ornithological Society). These birds were very common near Keeseville, where a heronry has been established on Valcour Island. Green Herons were

discovered in a flourishing heronry near Sunmount (Delahanty). American Bitterns were noted at Bloomingdale Bog (BOS), and the species was also reported at Tupper Lake (Amstutz) and Durant Lake (Delehanty). The Black-crowned Night Heron was at West Chazy (Delafield), and many immatures were seen at Wichman's Marsh and AuSable Point Marsh.

Ring-necked Ducks were most common at Tupper Lake (Amstutz). Black Ducks and Wood Ducks were at Lake Alice, where the Conservation Department has a banding and trapping station and also some geese and ducks to attract or decoy wild birds (Delafield). Black and Wood Ducks were also in the Matawaska area (BOS). At AuSable and Wichman's Marshes there were good hatches of Black Ducks, Wood Ducks, and Mallards. Blue-winged Teal had fair to good hatches also. Common Mergansers were at Tupper Lake (Amstutz); the Hooded Merganser was at the Chubb River Swamp in the Matawaska area (BOS), and the Red-breasted Merganser was at the St. Regis River camp (BOS).

Hawks — Owls: Among the hawk reports were the Red-shouldered at Fish Mountain and the Bald Eagle and Osprey near Mud Lake (McIlroy). The Red-shouldered Hawk and Sparrow Hawk were seen near Saranac Lake (Delafield), and the Goshawk and Broad-winged Hawk were at Matawaska (BOS).

Ruffed Grouse were reported in generally good numbers in all suitable areas. A Spruce Grouse was seen on Jul 4 by Rosche (BOS).

Common Snipe nested near River Marsh at Tupper Lake (Amstutz). Killdeer and Spotted Sandpipers were at Matawaska (BOS) and Lake Alice (Delafield). There were several species of shorebirds at AuSable Point, including Snipe, Least, Spotty, Solitary, and Yellowlegs. Snipe were present there in good numbers. There was one report not verified by me of a Baird's Sandpiper in the same area; I have seen and collected this species there in other seasons.

Bonaparte's, Herring, Ring-billed, and Great Black-backed Gulls were reported in the Port Kent and Keeseville-AuSable River areas. A Common Tern was reported from Port Kent (Delafield).

All areas reported increased numbers of Black-billed Cuckoos, in spite of the fact that this has not been a tent caterpillar year. Many cuckoos were killed by flying into windows or street lights.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: The Nighthawk was a common species at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Chimney Swifts and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were reported from all areas.

The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, and Yellow-shafted Flicker were at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). The Sapsucker and Downy Woodpecker were at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Members of the Buffalo Ornithological Society reported the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker (heard but not seen), Pileated, Hairy, and Downy at the Matawaska area.

The Least Flycatcher, Olive-sided, Crested, and Eastern Kingbird were normal in numbers at Tupper Lake (Amstutz). The Kingbird, Phoebe, Traill's Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Olive-sided, and Eastern Wood Pewee were at Pisico Lake (McIlroy), while the Kingbird, Least, and Wood Pewee were at Saranac Lake (Delafield). The Crested was low in numbers at Matawaska, as was the Olive-sided, but the Phoebe and Traill's were in good numbers there. Two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen at Matawaska on Jul 2 and again on Jul 4 (BOS).

All swallows were apparently seen by the BOS members, with the Bank being the most common. Rough-wings nested at Saranac Lake, and Purple Martins were seen at W. Chazy (Delafield). Tree and Barn Swallows were at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). And here is a report I have been waiting to hear and which shows what adequate covering can do — Cliff Swallows, by the hundreds, three separate migrating flocks, spaced a few days apart, at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). I have remarked on the scarcity of this species since 1955 when I noted that they were decreasing although adequate nesting sites were still available. Last year they disappeared altogether. The year before that there was one occupied nest at Burnams' Lodge on Echo Lake at Willsboro; that was the last I have seen of them here.

Common Crows, Blue Jays, and Black-capped Chickadees were seen in all areas. A Canada Jay was observed on Jul 2 at Matawaska by Seeber (BOS). White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen at Pisico Lake (McIlroy) and Saranac Lake (Delafield), and the White-breasted Nuthatch and Brown Creeper were observed

in the Matawaska area (BOS). Winter Wrens were well distributed in suitable areas. In the areas covered House Wrens were either spotty or absent. A Brown Thrasher was reported at St. Regis Falls on Jul 2 (BOS).

Catbirds, Swainson's Thrushes, and Wood Thrushes were all common at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). Many Swainson's were reported in the Tupper Lake area, but Bluebirds and Hermit Thrushes were scarce there (Amstutz). Catbirds, Robins, Wood Thrushes, Hermit Thrushes, and Veeries were all common at Saranac Lake (Delafield). The Swainson's Thrush was the commonest at Matawaska, where only two Bluebirds were seen, and at the 4,000-ft. level (and higher) on Whiteface Mountain Gray-cheeked Thrushes were reported (BOS). Bluebirds were scarce in most of the area, but still a few were seen here and there. I seem to think that the abandoning of farms with their old orchards, where this species nested quite prevalently, does have something to do with the situation. We have only five old apple trees left of what was once a considerable orchard. One is still suited to Bluebird nesting, and occasionally these birds do nest there, but we have to drive off the Starlings to permit the Bluebirds to do so. Starlings are another factor that might augment the occasion of the Bluebird scarcity.

Ruby-crowned Kinglets were at Saranac Lake (Delafield) and Bloomingdale (BOS). Golden-crowned Kinglets were well distributed in the areas covered. The general distribution of Cedar Waxwings was good in all areas.

Vireos — Warblers: The Red-eyed, Philadelphia, Yellow-throated, and Warbling Vireos were observed at Tupper Lake (Amstutz), and the Yellow-throated, Red-eyed, Solitary, and Philadelphia were noted at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). Solitary and Red-eyed Vireos were reported from Saranac Lake (Delafield) and the Matawaska area (BOS).

A Mourning Warbler's nest with young was located at Tupper Lake (Amstutz). Warblers reported from Pisico Lake by McIlroy included Black and White, Tennessee, Nashville, Yellow, Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Canada, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Yellowthroat, and Redstart. In the Matawaska area the boys from the BOS listed the following warblers: Black and White, Parula, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Blackpoll, Bay-breasted, Nashville, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Chestnut-sided, and Canada. The Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, and Chestnut-sided Warbler were seen at Saranac Lake (Delafield). At Keeseville there was very little singing, and only the Blackburnian, Redstart, Yellow, and Black and White were seen.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Redwings, Grackles, and Cowbirds were in good general distribution in suitable areas. There was a good nesting of Baltimore Orioles at Tupper Lake (Amstutz), and adult males were seen harassing a Crow at Saranac Lake (Delafield). Bobolinks were reported at the latter locality (Delafield). At Keeseville numbers of these blackbird species were about the same as last year.

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Scarlet Tanagers were at Tupper Lake, and one Pine Grosbeak was seen there (Amstutz). Two separate families of Evening Grosbeaks, with young, visited a feeder at Pisico Lake (McIlroy), and Evening Grosbeaks were also reported from Trudeau (BOS). Both Red and White-winged Crossbills were observed at Whitehouse (McIlroy).

Purple Finches, Goldfinches, Slate-colored Juncos, Chipping Sparrows, and Field Sparrows were fairly common at Pisico Lake (McIlroy). In the Saranac Lake region Purple Finches were down in numbers, while Goldfinches, Juncos, Vespers, Chippies, Fields, White-throats, and Songs were common (Delafield). In the Matawaska area White-throated Sparrows were low in numbers, but Savannah, Vesper, Chipping, Field, Swamp, and Song Sparrows were normal (BOS). From Jul 2 to 4 the Lincoln's Sparrow was observed at Matawaska, and the species was seen at Bloomingdale Bog on Jul 3. These are good observations by competent observers.

Keeseville

REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

WALTON B. SABIN

The summer by and large was cool and wet. Because of this weather many a vacation was unpleasant. Relatively few observations were reported, and so the summary below must be brief. In any event, there were no outstanding observations made during the period.

Loons — Owls: The first Common Egrets, three in number, were seen at Hillsdale on Jul 24 (Fremd), and thereafter they were regularly seen along the river above and below Hudson (Brown, Mickle). American Bitterns were observed at several localities. A female Wood Duck with ten young in tow was seen crossing a road at Hillsdale (Fremd), and a pair with five young was observed at Nassau (Turner). A scaup (species ?), perhaps injured, was at Queechy Lake for about a week beginning Jul 14 (Mickle).

Turkey Vultures were reported in several Columbia County localities. A sharp-shinned Hawk was spotted in Canaan during June (Payne). Broad-winged Hawks appeared to be nesting there as well as in Red Rock. A Coot apparently summered at Vischer Ferry, but no indications of breeding were noted (Hallenbeck).

Both species of cuckoo were quite widely reported in all areas of Columbia County. Screech and Great Horned Owls were both reported from several localities there (Gokay, Reeve, Erlenbach, Silvermail).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-wills were heard during June at Old Chatham (Barten), Canaan (Gokay), and Red Rock (Smilow). There were two or three reports of Pileated Woodpeckers. Tree Swallows had a good nesting season at Nassau, where this year there was more than double the number of productive boxes of any previous year since the boxes were erected in 1955. Bank Swallows were last reported at Ghent on Aug 8 (Erlenbach), and Cliff Swallows were last noted at Canaan on Aug 10 (Gokay). A flock of Rough-winged Swallows was seen along Kinderhook Creek in July (Silvermail).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were fledged from nestings at Nassau (Shineman) and Red Rock (Smilow). A pair of Mockingbirds nested near Scotia in June (Hallenbeck). The following is the "box" score on nesting Bluebirds in the Columbia County area: Nassau, two broods fledged (Turner); Canaan, at least two broods fledged; Chatham, at least one brood fledged (Leslie), and Ghent, at least two broods fledged (Erlenbach.) A very interesting record was that of a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Loudonville on Aug 11 (French).

Vireos — Sparrows: One adult and one young Yellow-throated Vireo were at Red Rock on Aug 14, and a Solitary Vireo was there on Jul 31 (Smilow).

Both the Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers were reported from Nassau during June (Turner), and the latter species was also seen during that month in Canaan (Payne). The Brewster's Warbler was later found on two separate occasions at Nassau (Shineman, Turner). A Nashville Warbler was spotted at Canaan on Jun 23 (Payne), and there was another at Ghent on Aug 15 (Erlenbach). The Black-throated Blue and Myrtle were seen at Berlin on Jul 23 (Alan Devoe Bird Club). Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Canada Warblers were recorded at Canaan on several occasions (Payne). During June two pairs of Louisiana Waterthrushes nested along a stream at Red Rock (Smilow). A Magnolia Warbler at Ghent on Aug 14 was the first of the fall migration (Erlenbach). A Northern Waterthrush was seen at Loudonville on Aug 11 (French).

There were numerous Columbia County reports of Cardinals, and Purple Finches nested at several localities there. A Grasshopper Sparrow was seen repeatedly in Old Chatham during June (Barten), and the Henslow's Sparrow was spotted on two occasions in July at Nassau (Turner). Very unusual was the presence of a White-crowned Sparrow at Canaan on Jun 25 (Payne).

652 Kenwood Avenue, Slingerlands

REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

FRED N. HOUGH

Our summer Hudson Valley weather was consistent in its pattern of being cool and wet. Although June was near normal in both respects, July ended up cool and wet with August continuing in a similar fashion. As a result it was a lush growing season. As is often the case, local bird populations varied according to comment, with some species increasing and others decreasing. It may be a matter of conjecture, but region-wise it seems safe to say that, in general, it was not a season of profuse abundance among our nesting birds (excluding Grackles, Starlings, etc.). However the case may be, there were several interesting finds, and these happily reflect the serious interest that birders are taking in our local ornithology. Mrs.

William Grierson notes several reports of albinism in birds and other species of animal life in the Westchester County area and wonders what may be causing this abnormal amount.

Loons — Owls: Common Egrets began to appear in various parts of the region during mid-July. Very little was reported concerning any of our summer ducks.

Hawks, like the ducks, received little mention for the period. Dan Smiley banded three young Broad-winged Hawks on Jul 3 near Mohonk Lake, Ulster County. An Osprey was found near Lake DeForest, Rockland County, on Aug 7, constituting a second August record for birders in this area (Bob Deed). There were no comments indicating any change in the Ruffed Grouse status of the region. Released Bobwhite seem to be faring much better in the Dutchess County area than across the River in Ulster County. A Common Tern was at Ashokan Reservoir, Ulster County, on Jun 3 (A. Feldman).

Mourning Doves summered in good numbers. Cuckoos showed a good increase, their first in a number of years. Both species were more common in Rockland County (R. Deed et al), and in Dutchess County the Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club noted that the Yellow-billed outnumbered the Black-billed almost four to one. In Ulster County the Yellow-billed also seemed to outnumber the Black-billed. Near Kripplebush, Ulster County, a Yellow-billed Cuckoo nested in a hazelnut bush alongside a garden — a rather open situation (F. Hough). On Jun 22 Dan Smiley found a dead of this species in the waters of Mohonk Lake.

At dusk on Jun 5 William Grierson spotted a Screech Owl sitting on the edge of his bird bath at his home in Mt. Kisco, Westchester. Adding additional weight to the strong possibility that Saw-whet Owls do nest in Ulster County is a record made by Dan Smiley. On Jul 15 a young Saw-whet Owl flew into the Mohonk Lake Mountain House, creating an uprising among the guests. The bird was indignantly captured and turned over to Mr. Smiley, who banded it. After some observation by F. Hough, it was released.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Most observers agreed that there was some scarcity of Hummingbirds this year. Several Rockland County observers were treated to an unusual sight in July. A near-complete albino Ruby-throated was found about the home of Robert Meylan in Bardonia and made an odd contrast with the normal bird. It was creamy above, white below, and showed no metallic coloration at all. The Red-headed was reported in Dutchess County (RTWBC), but it seems to have been missed elsewhere in the region. At Stone Ridge, Ulster County, Barn Swallows still had young in the nest at the end of the period (F.H.). After a great many years Cliff Swallows again nested under the eaves of Henry Dunbar's barn at his residence in Lomontville, Ulster County. Martha Earl, too, was happy to find some Cliff Swallows nesting under the eaves of a house in Bull's Mills, Orange County. The Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club of Dutchess County is working on a project of building and erecting Purple Martin houses for the Dutchess area. This is a wonderful plan and should pay off in new colonies.

The Tufted Titmouse is continuing to hold its own. F. Germond again reported nesting Brown Creepers in Dutchess County. The Carolina Wren is also continuing to hold its own. Mabel Little reported they nested successfully in her area about Carmel, Putnam County. The Long-billed Marsh Wren was found in two new locations in Dutchess County, about the NYS Conservation swamps near Pleasant Valley (M. Key, J. Key, M. Van Wagner, E. Pink).

There was about the same evidence of Mockingbirds this year as last. Veeries appeared to be off in summer numbers. Nearly everyone felt the scarcity of Bluebirds. Again I would like to encourage groups and individuals to erect houses for Bluebirds at any suitable location. On Jun 12 members of a John Burroughs Natural History Society (Ulster County) field trip party had the good fortune of watching a pair of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers constructing a nest. This was put on a horizontal oak limb about forty feet from the ground; the site was the Chodikee Lake Road west of West Park. This is a first local record of nesting evidence. Cedar Waxwings were not about in any summer abundance.

Vireos — Warblers: Bob Deed's report of numerous Warbling Vireos in parts of Rockland County encourages us to believe that their nesting sites have not been greatly disturbed or altered. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dunbar unexpectedly found a nesting Magnolia Warbler — right in their front yard! The nest was in a Thuja tree three feet above ground, and the site was located at Lomontville, Ulster County.

Two young were fledged. Several pairs of Cerulean Warblers were found about Cruger's Island, Dutchess County, during the summer, most of which were exhibiting complete nesting evidence (RTWBC). Ceruleans were also found across the Hudson in the Black Creek locality of Ulster County, but no one was able to run down a nest. A single male appeared at the Dunbars' residence in Lomontville on Jun 2, but it didn't linger long.

In the ecology of the Northern Yellowthroat, Fred Hough and Dan Smiley have determined its habitat to extend and exist in Canadian flora and faunal situations in Ulster County. Such evidence was seen in a pair found nesting in the Balsam zone on Balsam Lake Mountain 3,700 feet in the Catskills.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The House Sparrow, pest that he is, is showing some signs of paying for his keep in this country. In some localities these sparrows have been observed holding a fair check on emerging Japanese beetles. The Orchard Oriole nested at Red Oaks Mill, near Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, in a site that had been used previously (W. Clare, Jr.). Indigo Buntings and Goldfinches were considered on the off side. The Towhee was found on the summit of Balsam Lake Mountain and may well have nested there since it was seen in June and August (F. Hough, D. Smiley).

The Henslow's Sparrow was reported in Ulster County but not elsewhere in the region. A Swamp Sparrow was singing lustily in the Mud Pond area atop the Shawangunks, Ulster County, on Jul 17 and was probably nesting at that site.

Accord 1

REGION 10 — MARINE

JOHN J. ELLIOTT

The summer period was comfortably cool with the official thermometer remaining under 90 degrees Fahren. There was sufficient rain to encourage good vegetation tracts, but no flooded breeding areas resulting from storms with strong northeast winds occurred to the detriment of water birds, breeding rails, Sharp-tailed, and Seaside Sparrows.

Grassy tracts grew luxuriantly with tremendous crops of the Panicums, especially switch-grass (*Panicum birgatum*), *Agrostis*, and *Digitaria*. This speaks well of coming seed crops for migrating and wintering sparrows.

Prodigious flocks of both Grackles and Starlings flying nightly into the tall groves of trees indicated a highly successful season for these aggressive species. The former I hold largely responsible for the elimination by nest-robbing of the attractive little British Goldfinch on Long Island, now unrecorded for the last few years. Likewise, among the less desirable water birds, a great increase has been noticed in breeding Herring Gulls, now known in over a half-dozen colonies from Jamaica Bay eastward to and including Gardiner's Island. In practically all of these colonies one or two pairs of Great Black-backed Gulls, sometimes more, have been reported. With this increase comes a diminishment of the more desirable terns and skimmers, both on eastern and extreme western Long Island, if near these colonies.

Nesting Egrets were reported in several locations. The ever-spreading Cattle Egret was again reported, but apparently not as a breeder. Among the land birds the Hermit Thrush was again scarce in the pine barrens. Pine, Prairie, and Black-throated Green Warblers were up in numbers from the all-time low of 1959 (Puleston). Bluebirds were practically non-existent on Long Island. Cardinals were on the increase, and for the first time in recent years the Tufted Titmouse nested.

Loons — Ducks: An immature Gannet was seen at Short Beach on Jul 16 (P. Post, E. Restivo). The first Double-crested Cormorant was at Shinnecock on Jul 24 (G. Raynor), and six were at South Oyster Bay Aug 15 (J. Elliott). Common and Snowy Egrets bred again at Jones Beach south of the Sanctuary pond. At Jamaica Bay there were 25 pairs of Common and 90 pairs of Snowy Egrets on Jul 16; also noted was a pair of Little Blue Herons, with one young being banded (Post, Restivo). The Little Blue Heron seemed slightly up in numbers elsewhere with several seen on the Moriches flats and six or seven at Jones Beach in early August. On Jun 10 there were two nests of the Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Northport (E. Mudge). A Louisiana Heron was at Jamaica Bay Sanctuary on Aug 6 (J. Mayer, G. Rose). Two Cattle Egrets were reported on Plum Island for about two weeks in June, and

there was one in Mecox, Georgia area, in late spring (R. Latham). There were practically no Glossy Ibis records, nor did the Wood Ibis appear this year. The white heron count at the East Moriches roost on Aug 7 was 37 Common Egrets and 103 Snowy Egrets or similarly-sized immature Little Blue Herons (G. Raynor).

Among nesting ducks manager Herbert Johnson reported at the Jamaica Bay Sanctuary seven young Gadwall, two broods of Shovelers, and one brood of Blue-winged Teal, with five young seen. Over 50 Ruddy Ducks, including young and old, were present at the end of the nesting season. Among migrants at Jamaica Bay were six Green-winged Teal seen on Aug 6.

Gadwall summered at Jones Beach Sanctuary Pond. An early August Wood Duck was seen at Manorville (G. Raynor), and a Common Goldeneye was observed at Moriches Inlet on Jul 28 (Pembleton, Good). Four Red-breasted Mergansers were counted on a survey of Jamaica Bay Islands on Jul 16 (Post, Restivo).

Hawks — Owls: Two broods of Broad-winged Hawks and one of Red-tailed Hawks were banded on eastern Long Island (Puleston). The two species of Accipiter hawks are now extremely rare, even on eastern Long Island. An Osprey was seen flying over Great South Bay at West Islip on Jul 4, apparently a non-breeding bird (I. Alperin). There were very few records of any of the raptors.

The Purple Gallinule reported at Hewlett in mid-May remained there until at least Jun 4 (R. Sloss). A Common Gallinule was seen at Lawrence on Jul 3 (Post, Kallman). An estimated 50 Coot and two broods of Common Gullinules were observed at Jamaica Bay (Johnson). The American Oystercatcher nested on a sandy island at Moriches Bay and produced three young (D. Puleston) which were banded by LeRoy Wilcox. A second pair was seen at Shinnecock about mid-August (Puleston).

Among the shorebirds, there were three Whimbrels at Point Lookout on Jul 31 (Norse, Buckley, Post). On Jul 8 there was an early large flock of 300 Dowitchers and one Solitary Sandpiper (Post, Restivo). Two Solitary Sandpipers were at Manorville on Aug 6 (G. Raynor). Other early birds were three Stilt Sandpipers and four Hudsonian Godwits on Jul 9 at Moriches. A maximum of six Hudsonian Godwits was seen at Moriches on Aug 7 (Puleston). On Jul 16 there was a female Northern Phalarope in breeding plumage at Jamaica Bay (Post, Restivo).

Two Avocets were reported, one at Orient on Aug 5 (Latham), and one daily at Jamaica Bay from Aug 6 to 14. Two great Black-backed Gulls and 75 pairs of Herring Gulls made up the Fire Island State Park gull colony, while at Jamaica Bay there were three pairs of Great Black-backed Gulls (most southerly nesting record to date in the East) and several hundred pairs of Herring Gulls.

Among the large population of Common Terns in the Oak Beach tern colony, about one out of ten was estimated to be a Roseate. The Roseate was also reported nesting on Meadow Island and at Fire Island Inlet. The only terns found nesting in the entire Jamaica Bay area was a small colony near the west pond in the sanctuary (Post, Restivo).

A Gull-billed Tern was seen circling and heard calling at Lake Success on Jul 6 (Mayer). An early Caspian Tern was at Fire Island Inlet on Jul 10 (I. Alperin). Two Royal Terns were at Mecox on Jul 24, and there was one at Shinnecock on Jul 30 (Raynor). Black Terns were scarce.

Both cuckoos appeared to be on the increase. The Yellow-billed was feeding young at Woodbury in early July. One Short-eared Owl was seen at Jamaica Bay on Jul 16. Screech Owls were scarce. One at Manorville on Aug 6 was Raynor's only 1960 record.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Single Nighthawks were at Manorville on Jul 29 and Aug 6 (Raynor). Two Red-headed Woodpeckers nested in West Islip, and later several juvenile birds were observed. Hairy Woodpeckers were seen in the Syosset area. The Kingbird was fairly common, with nesting records at Syosset. At Manorville Phoebe had only one brood instead of two as usual (Raynor). Wood Pewees were fairly common, but Least Flycatchers were scarce on Long Island. There was an early Olive-sided Flycatcher at Inwood on Aug 5 (Norse) and at Orient on Aug 9 ("earliest ever here" — Latham). The Tree Swallow had poor nesting results at Manorville. Purple Martins there raised large broods early and left early (Raynor).

Chickadees and White-breasted Nuthatches seemed to be on the upgrade after low numbers the past several years. The Tufted Titmouse nested at Oyster Bay and in Brentwood. Latham reported only about one-third the nesting House Wrens

on the north fork; also down was his Carolina Wren count, with one at Orient and two or three at Greenport. Further west the Carolina Wren has appeared occasionally to the Oyster Bay — Mill Neck area. Several Mockingbird records have come in. The Hermit Thrush was again scarce in the pines barrens. None could be found at Coram where they were known rather commonly for many years (Queens County Bird Club, Elliott). Latham reported only one at Riverhead. On the other hand the Veery is extending its range on Long Island, with a new nesting discovered in the Yaphank woods (Raynor). The only Bluebird report was of an individual at Yaphank; this time there were none in Raynor's boxes at Manorville.

Vireos — Warblers: White-eyed Vireos were seen at several locations. The Yellow-throated Vireo was at Cold Spring Harbor, but it was scarce in the Oyster Bay area. At Millers Place on Jun 18 a pair of Warbling Vireos had a nest with young in a maple overhanging the road (Puleston); these birds were generally scarce.

The Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Ovenbird, and Yellowthroat were the commonest warblers. A Lawrence's Warbler stayed at Lake Success from late June to Jul 15 (Mayer). Pine and Prairie Warblers were scarce in western Suffolk County around Brentwood; only one Pine Warbler was seen in early July (Mayer, Rose). On eastern Long Island Puleston reported Pine, Prairie, and Black-throated Green Warblers in better condition than last year, and Mudge found two singing Black-throated Green Warblers at Northport on Jul 18. There were none again this year in West Hills. The Louisiana Waterthrush nested at Manorville for the second time in as many years; they were scarce elsewhere (Raynor).

Early arrivals included a Northern Waterthrush at Inwood Park on Jul 25 (Norse) and a Myrtle Warbler at Captree State Park on Aug 4 (Alperin).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Two Bobolinks were seen at Babylon on Jun 6 (Baldwin Bird Club). Baltimore Orioles had a good season, but there were no Orchard Oriole breeding records. Scarlet Tanagers were fairly well spread in the oak woods. Cardinals are becoming more widespread; they nested at Greenport this year (Latham). There were two records of the Purple Finch: two at Jessup's Neck on Aug 7 (Pembleton, Good), and one singing at Noyack on Jul 4 (Raynor). There were no Henslow's Sparrow nesting records. A Lark Sparrow was observed at Captree on Aug 9 (Alperin). Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows were present at Manorville during the summer, but Song Sparrows appeared down in numbers in the island (Raynor).

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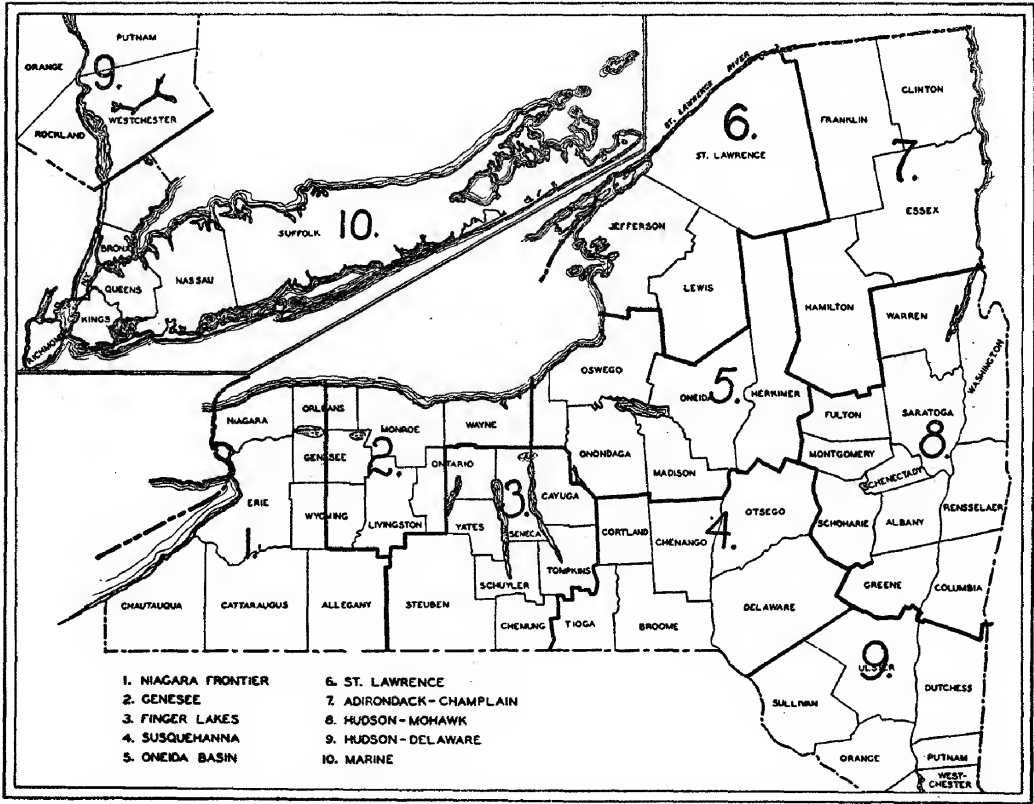
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